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The Long Island FISHERMAN

The Difference Between Just Fishing and Catching Fish!

OCTOBER 27th, 1977, ISSUE No. 41

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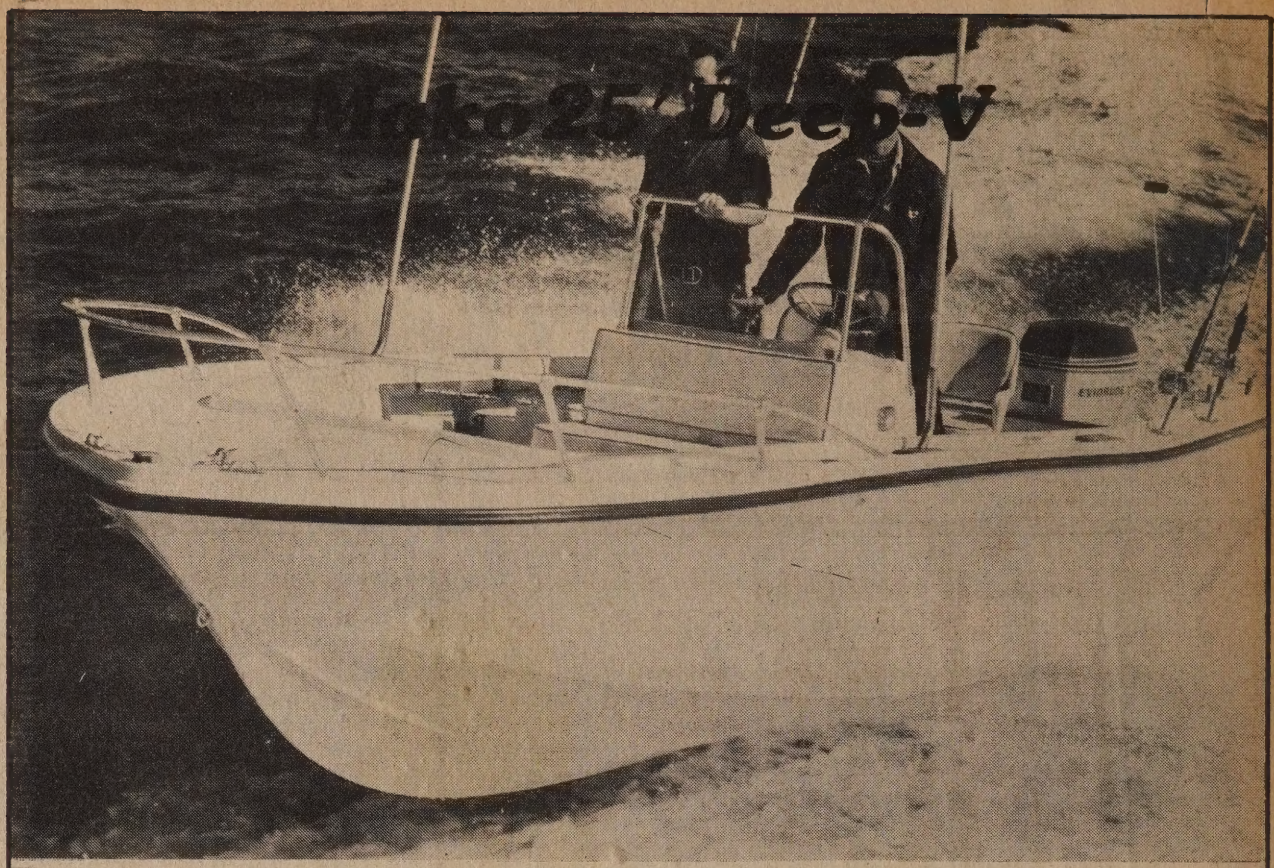

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The Long Island FISHERMAN

The Difference Between Just Fishing and Catching Fish!

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COD PRIMER

About the Cover—

Vic Galgano of *Spider Lures* took this big bluefish he caught on a jointed Squid Eel. Bluefishing has been great (weather permitting) from the New York Bight to Montauk Point.

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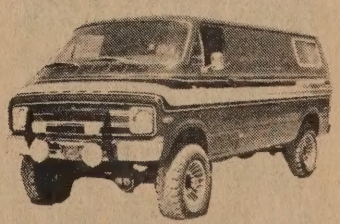

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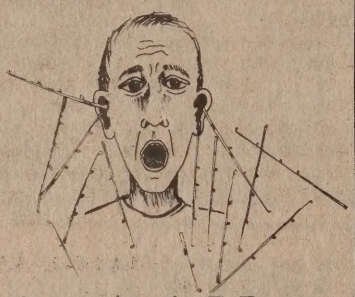

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★ EDITORIAL ★

Long Island Sound Bridge—*Again?*

This week's topic is not new to these pages. Perhaps some of you are wondering why we continue to discuss the topic? Well you might wonder, too! Each and every time politicians start talking about the cross-Sound bridge, there is public opposition followed by assurances that the idea is dead.

However, we forget that the nature of government and bureaucracy is the relentless pursuit of an idea—when the motivation behind the success of the idea is money!

When the Rye-Oyster Bay Bridge was offered as a possibility, citizens turned out by the thousands to offer opposition, scientists gave public testimony that the construction of the bridge would damage vital wetlands on both shores, and local businessmen explained that although a bridge would offer advantages to some big businesses, some small operations might fold under the new pressure. We were worried about the environmental effects to be sure, but we were also concerned about increased traffic, smog, and the possible destruction of a way of life.

Outsiders looking in see Long Island as a financial resource. Even some businessmen who live on Long Island are blinded by the drive to make a few more bucks. Friends, dollars are not the only important thing in life. Long Islanders know why they settled here, why they love it, and why their way of life is important to them. But is it important to outsiders?

Those who have lined up in favor of a bridge across Long Island Sound are quick to point out that a bridge would eliminate the transportation dead end, create jobs, and open new markets. This is probably true. It is also true that there are some communities on Long Island that have suffered greatly from the recession of the past several years and they would welcome new jobs. But at what price? If the price is oil slicks on our beaches, no baitfish, poor recreational fishing, endless unbroken tracts of housing from the city line to Orient Point, would the jobs be worth it?

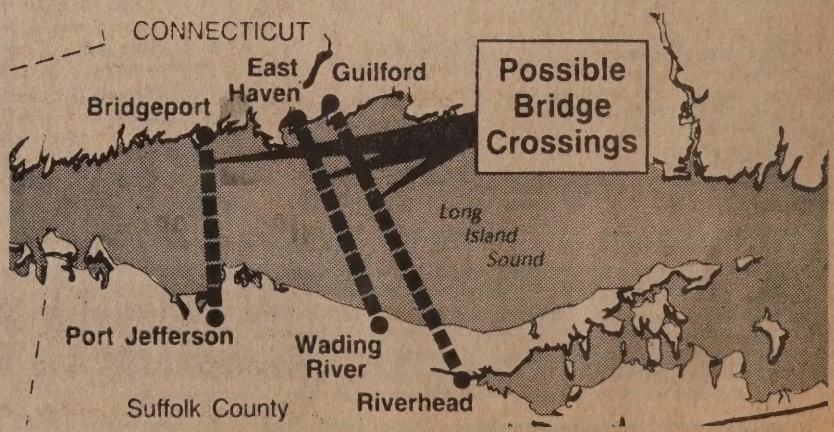
Long Islanders like the fact that our home is a transportation dead end. It keeps down unnecessary traffic and yet none of us has suffered from failure to deliver goods and products. Prices on Long Island are comparable to elsewhere, so who would really benefit from the bridge. The consumer? Not on your life. The benefit would be to the trucker who would save a few bucks on diesel fuel and the manufacturer who might save a few dollars by increased shipments that would now go in a straighter line. If you think for one minute that any of us would ever see those increased profits reflected in lower costs, you are only kidding yourself!

And don't be suckered in by talk of increased tax revenues from bridge and road tolls. Have any of us seen any benefit from tolls on the Triboro Bridge, Whitestone, Throggs Neck, George Washington, etc.? Do you remember that the toll on the Triboro was supposed to end after the bridge was paid for? Many decades later, we still have the tolls and they get more expensive all the time! Where does the toll money go? From accounts in the newspapers, it would seem that officials of The Port Authority find that the funds are a convenient way to enjoy fun and games both abroad and at home.

Let's call a spade a spade! The only way that Long Islanders will benefit from a bridge across L. I. Sound is if nobody builds it!

It's election time and it is appropriate that voters let politicians know where they stand. How does your Assemblyman and State Senator stand on this issue? Those in favor of the bridge are: Sen. John Caemmerer (R.-E, Williston), Denis Hurley (R.-1st District, Candidate), Joyce Burland (D.-1st District, Incumbent),

(Continued on page 33.)



Pass It On...

CITIZEN ACTION ALERT!
CLEAN WATER ACT
IN PERIL

It looks like the next several days will determine whether the Clean Water Act will be saved or irreparably gutted.

Final decisions are about to be made on the fate of the Clean Water Act of 1972. YOUR IMMEDIATE HELP is needed to help make the winning difference.

If you received our last mailing, you know that the House and Senate have been in conference to see if they can reach agreement on changes to the 1972 Clean Water Act and continued funding for the nation's cleanup program. There are some encouraging signs. House members seem more willing to be flexible than at any time before (which is good for us since the bill is so bad).

But things could take a turn in any direction at this point, for better or for worse. Conferees (see list below) have now turned their attention to the two biggest questions: **wetlands protection** and **best available technology** (BAT) requirements for industry, including controls for toxics.

Everything is being done that can be done here in Washington, D.C., by clean water lobbyists. The key to our succeeding is **you**. The politicians need to know that large numbers of constituents back home are watching and will be outraged if they weaken the law.

Time may now allow our being in touch with you by phone in the next few days. So please—we hope you will take action immediately upon receiving this alert. Please telephone or telegram today. Conferees need to get a sense that citizen support is expanding. If you've communicated with your member of Congress before, please do it again. And find other citizens to send in messages too.

Several individual messages from members of an organization are worth more now than just one organizational communication.

The ISSUES and the MESSAGE

WETLANDS PROTECTION (SECTION 404): Section 404 is the most seriously threatened section of the Clean Water Act. The House version virtually means the end of wetlands protection in this country. The Senate version is preferable, but not desirable. Both versions contain language exempting Federal projects from the 404 review process. These Federal exemptions amendments must be defeated—they effectively kill the wetlands protection program. Senator Floyd Haskell of Colorado is not a conferee. The Senate Federal exemption amendment is the Haskell amendment. Let him, as well as all Senate and House conferees, know you don't like it.

MESSAGE: "No change in section 404. No delegation of Phase I waters to states. Oppose exemptions for Federal projects. Vote for strong wetlands protection."

BEST AVAILABLE TECHNOLOGY and TOXICS CONTROLS:

The imposition of the best available pollution control technology is the only effective means of achieving control of discharges of toxic and hazardous pollutants. Industry has argued that best available technology (BAT) will not be necessary to achieve fishable swimmable water quality and that the costs of installing BAT thus would be wasted.

MESSAGE: "Support the strongest best available technology requirements, especially regarding control of toxic pollutants."

1977 INDUSTRIAL DEADLINE EXTENSIONS: The steel industry, the one industry that has widely refused to comply with the 1977 cleanup deadlines, is now seeking a special deadline extension by spreading scare stories about potential national security disasters if steel is required to clean up.

MESSAGE: "No extension for the steel industry. Rewarding the most recalcitrant polluters places those who have cleaned up in good faith at a competitive disadvantage and encourages foot-dragging."

THE CONFEREES

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ADDRESS: Dear Senator:
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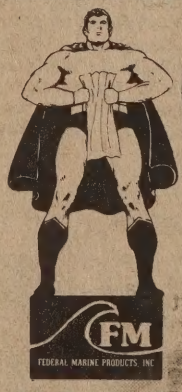
Graumont, Raoul. Fishermen's Knots and Nets. about $4.

Blandford, P.W. Net Making. about $2.25

Check your public library. If they don't have it, they should be able to lend one on inter-library loan. **Dr. W. A. Muller.**



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NATIONAL SCENE

NEWS & NOTES ON THE WORLD OF FISHING
with Al Ristori

BLUEFIN TUNA SITUATION REMAINS CRITICAL

The fifth regular meeting of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas will be convened November 16-22 in Madrid, Spain. Unless ICCAT really gets down to the business of conserving the bluefin tuna resource, the outlook for that species is bleak.

As noted many times in this column, the 200 Mile Limit law does not include tuna in its coverage. This has created problems in controlling the Japanese longliner by-catch of billfish and sharks, but at least that problem is nearing an equitable (if not perfect) solution. The worst impact of the tuna exemption in the law is reflected in our inability to properly conserve bluefin tuna stocks which were severely reduced by years of unrestrained seining. Unless, and until, the tuna exemption is dropped from the law, we must remain dependent on ICCAT and "international cooperation" to save this important game fish.

After years of urging by scientists, such as Frank Mather, who had warned that over-exploitation was virtually destroying entire year classes, ICCAT finally took some action. Each member country was asked not to exceed its previous year's catch of bluefin, and the capture of first year tuna (under 14 lbs.) was prohibited. Congress authorized the implementation of regulations to carry out these objectives and American fishermen have been living with those restrictions ever since.

American rod and reel fishermen, harpooners, and handliners are restricted to 2,000 giant tuna per year, while the purse seine fleet is allocated 180 short tons. Additionally, sportsmen are limited to four school tuna per day and the purse seine fleet to 1,000 metric tons. The main concern is with the comparative lack of small and intermediate size tuna. While these stocks are being rebuilt, it is necessary to provide some protection for the giants that now constitute the major spawning stock. While restrictions on American fishermen have been basically effective, the entire program has been jeopardized by Japanese longlining of giant tuna in pre-spawning condition.

The Japanese effort in the Gulf of Mexico only came to light this year. As previously reported, our scientists had estimated (based on Coast Guard sightings of longliners and a couple of inspections) that the Japanese had captured as many as 18,000 giant tuna from the Gulf during the winter and spring. At our meetings with the Japanese negotiators in July, their delegation head, Mr. Yonezawa, challenged those estimates and promised to provide us with further information. At last month's Canada/U.S./Japan discussions on bluefin tuna, held at the State Department, Mr. Yonezawa provided an estimate of 9,076 giant tuna.

Our scientists still feel that this estimate is probably low, but the real "kicker" is the fact that this actually represented a decrease from the 1976 fishery that we weren't even aware of! Last year they boated 9,800 giants, after taking 300 in 1973; 1,300 in 1974, and 6,445 in 1975! Keep in mind that those huge catches of the last three years were taken while American fishermen, both sport and commercial, were restricted to little more than 2,000 per year. Each year, the season north of Cape Cod has been closed in early September, when many fish were still available and the price was around $1.50 a pound, headed and gutted. Obviously, this closure results in a significant economic loss to American fishermen. That loss can be easily justified in terms of conservation, but how can it be justified if Japanese longliners are going to catch the fish we're allowing to escape for spawning purposes before they've had a chance to shed their eggs?

Basically, what has happened is that the Japanese have shifted their bluefin tuna effort from an even more rapidly declining fishery in the Mediterranean Sea to the Gulf of Mexico. Therefore, they are able to stay within their overall ICCAT quota. While they've observed the letter of the law, the effect of their actions has been to negate the sacrifices of American fishermen and create further doubt about the long-term recovery of the stocks. While all this will be discussed at the ICCAT meetings, it's very unlikely that any significant actions will be taken. The Japanese indicated that they were willing to go along with additional conservation measures, but only if they were equally applied to all nations in the fishery—implying a corresponding reduction in our 2,000 fish quota.

Obviously, the only long term hope for this fishery is elimination of the tuna exemption in the law. Most of the regional fishery management councils have called for this action, and some progress is being made. Long Island Congressman Norman Lent recently informed me that he has taken this matter up with Congressman Robert Leggett (D.-Cal), Chairman of the Fisheries Subcommittee of the House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee. Leggett assured Lent that he was concerned about the situation and would hold hearings on the matter later this year, or early in 1978. I expect that we've only begun this battle, but pressure is building up and we should be successful if everyone hasn't forgotten how to write letters since the 200 Mile Limit battle was won.

At this point, it appears that the American Tuna season is just about over. The "hook and harpoon" season north of Cape Cod was closed in early September and the season south of that area was inadvertently closed about the same time with almost half the catch still to be taken. It was reopened shortly thereafter, but it's unlikely that many more fish will be taken. The purse seine season for giants was closed on September 19, after the fleet had met its quota of 180 short tons. The purse seine fishery for school tuna lasted but a few days at the beginning of the summer. Even at that, the fleet exceeded its quota of 1,000 metric tons by fifty-six tons, and we understand that many more tons were wasted in this operation where many boats rush to catch as much of the quota as possible before the fishery is closed off. This is a situation in which a limited entry scheme and "per boat" quota is called for in order to prevent overfishing.

Needless to say, sportsmen in the Mid-Atlantic area suffered through another dismal school tuna season. Fortunately, it wasn't a total failure (as in 1976), but it certainly left much to be desired. Most of the bluefin taken in our area were found scattered throughout the offshore waters. At Montauk, normally scarce yellowfin tuna and true albacore outnumbered the bluefins. Ironically, for the second straight year, anglers in Virginia and Maryland had great school tuna fishing in June; then the seiners moved in and it was all over for the season. Theoretically, the seiners aren't taking too great a percentage of the fish. However, for two years running, the same sequence of events has occurred. There has been a great concentration of tuna off Virginia until the seiners arrived—and then a scarcity of tuna along the entire coast for the rest of the season. Last year, I suggested to NMFS that the seining season should be delayed until the fall. At that time, it wouldn't interfere with sportsmen and the seiners would benefit from the extra weight the fish had acquired during the summer. This year we should insist on such a provision for at least a one-year trial to see if it will result in a more equitable distribution of the resource.

At the same meeting, we received some interesting information from the Canadians. It seems that our friends to the north didn't make any exception of tuna in their 200 Mile Act and, as a result, have the best of the deal at present. They haven't issued any permits to the Japanese (keeping them off U.S. coasts), and still can fish tuna off our shores without permission. One of their seiners took 320 short tons of seventy-five to eighty pound bluefins off the New Jersey coast this summer! Domestically, the Canadians allow only a

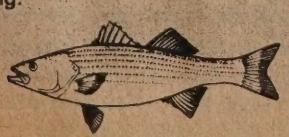
rod and reel fishery (primarily in Prince Edward Island) and a trap fishery in St. Margaret's Bay. The sport boats are limited to two fish per day and are also limited by seasons. There is no handlining or harpooning. The traps in St. Margaret's Bay have been taking about 500 giants per year, but this year trapped almost 1,000. Most of these fish arrive at the end of May and are penned up for fattening throughout the summer and eventual sale to the Japanese in the fall when the price is highest.

1976 ALS TAGGING WINNERS RECEIVE GARCIA PLAQUES

Individuals and clubs doing the best job in tagging with American Littoral Society tags in 1976 recently received the annual Garcia Plaque Awards for their outstanding performances in furthering the cause of conservation. Charles Wahl, Jr., of Brooklyn, N.Y., took the award for the tagged fish that traveled the greatest distance. Louis Tabory, of Green Farms, Conn., had the tag return from the fish that was free the longest time. Colonel Leo Schulten, of Center Harbor, N.H., had the most tag returns in fresh water; while the most tag returns in salt water went to Durston Smith, of Babylon, N.Y. Club winners were the Berkeley Striper Club (N.J.) for most fish tagged in 1976, and Empire Striper Assn. (N.Y.) for the club having the most tags returned last year. ALS tagging director, Graham MacMillan would like to have even more anglers participating in this fine program. For more information, drop him a line at American Littoral Society, Sandy Hook, Highlands, N.J. 07732.

HEARINGS ON LONG ISLAND'S UNDERGROUND DRINKING WATER COMING UP

Hearings to determine the specific requirements of interim legislative safeguards to provide for the protection and purity of Long Island's threatened drinking water supply are to be held on Oct. 19 and 20. The Oct. 19 meeting will be at 10:00 a.m., in the Board of Supervisors Hearing Room, Fifth Floor, County Executive Building, 1 West St., Mineola, N.Y. On Oct. 20, the hearing will convene at 10:00 a.m., in the Legislative Board Room, Executive-Legislative Building, Suffolk County Center, Veterans Memorial Highway, Hauppauge, N.Y. The hearings by the Special Task Force of the Assembly Environmental Protection Committee on the Underground Drinking Water Supply on Long Island will be co-chaired by Assemblywoman Mary Rose McGee and Assemblyman Lewis J. Yevoli. Individuals wishing to testify should notify Helen McCooey, Room 2, 355 New York Ave., Huntington, N.Y. 11743 (516-427-5588). It is requested that they supply ten copies of their complete statements and summarize those statements at the hearing.



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Sinker Bouncing

with Matt Ahern

LING FISHING

Ling are the answer to the meat fisherman's prayer. You will find few fish so willing to cooperate with the angler in this respect. I can't remember a time when I went ling fishing and failed to score; hence the reason for this fish's popularity among anglers.

You will find most ling are caught from party boats, but many private boat fishermen with suitable deep-water craft spend much time enticing these tasty relatives of the cod to the baited hook. They find, too, that it isn't a case of knowing how to catch ling, but rather when to stop putting them in the bucket. It is easy to get carried away when greedy ling latch on to the bait the instant it reaches bottom. I guess you might say ling are great fish for the beginner.

Yes, I know you will hear fishermen say they wouldn't be caught dead fishing for ling; but except for those few who truly have prejudice, most of this talk is just that—talk. Because these fish have been the innocent victims of many disparaging comments over the years, you may still hear fishermen refer to ling as "sewer trout," or perhaps that real oldie: "Coney Island trout," plus an assortment of other ill-chosen names. But slowly and surely, this unfair name-calling is losing ground as more and more fishermen realize that ling aren't really such bad guys after all.

If you doubt this, ask the party boat skippers who fish the ling-rich waters of the New York Bight. They'll tell you these willing biters have come through in a pinch many times to save what would have been a poor fishing day. You will even find some skippers who devote their entire fishing day to ling fishing—especially in spring—and because of it, they have many ling devotees as regular patrons. Truly, ling have their place on the fisherman's list of good fish to catch.

Ling are cool water fish. Therefore, except for anglers who fish the deeper offshore grounds, plus isolated areas known to those knowledgeable skippers who specialize, few ling are caught during August and September. When ling are caught during these months, however, they are apt to be pretty good-sized. Seldom will you find those one-and-a-half to two-pound fish so common in spring and fall.

During autumn, most ling are found in deep water; in fact, November cod fishermen are never surprised when ling begin to come over the rail. This means that suitable tackle to hook and land fish in water from fifty to one-hundred feet is necessary. Codfishing tackle is okay, of course, but not the best choice if you just wish to do some plain old ling fishing.

For this, it's best to use a medium-weight boat rod. Forget spinning tackle of any kind. This whippy stuff can't possibly handle the heavy, eight to ten ounce bank sinkers needed to hold bottom. And too, the current on these deep water grounds often causes a belly in the line and you've got to have a rod stiff enough to take up this slack and leave enough over to plant the hook. Using spinning tackle will cause you much frustration and loss of fish.

I'll tell you the truth: I'd sooner fish with a hand line than attempt to hook ling with a spinning outfit. And what if you hook a cod? This is always a possibility in the fall. Use the right tackle and you'll have no difficulty hooking your share of the available ling.

Fill a good quality revolving-spool reel with at least one hundred yards of thirty pound test monofilament. Many ling fishermen prefer twenty pound stuff, but I believe the heavier mono is more suitable in fall because of the chance that a cod might be nosing around.

Any hook of suitable size will do a job on ling, but you might as well have it right. As far as I'm concerned, nothing in the hook department beats a 3/0 or 4/0 Sproat. You'll find, too, that the versatile Sproat is the right type should a stray cod think your offering worthy enough to investigate.

These sizes are much smaller than any recommended cod hook, of course, but they will hold an outsized fish without difficulty, should you be lucky enough to hook into one. Just remember not to become over-confident and take your time when decking these hefty fish. Over the years, I've caught my share of cod on these smaller Sproats while ling fishing and can't remember losing a fish due to hook failure.

Sharp-toothed whiting are often caught when ling fishing and you'll find some anglers use long-shanked Carlisles to avoid trouble when extracting an occasional deeply-swallowed hook. Because I believe ling are more easily hooked on regular-shanked Sproats, I don't find this reason enough to use the heavier long-shanks. Stick with the Sproat and don't worry about the whiting's teeth—they aren't bluefish. You are out there to catch fish and not waste time fretting over something that rarely happens.

Rigging is no problem. There are two ways to do this, depending upon where the fishing is done. You'll find that in fall, most ling fishing is done over unobstructed mud bottom or a mixture consisting of mud and sand. When fishing such areas, the chances of becoming hung-up are nil and you'll find a tandem-tied rig which allows two hooks to be extended on bottom is best.

To tandem-tie a rig is a simple matter. Select one of two hooks and fold its snell at the middle. Pass this fold through the knotted loop of the other. Then take the second hook and pass it through the fold and draw up tight. Complete by tying a simple overhand knot to secure against sliding. Place on the main line about three inches above the sinker by forming a two-inch loop made with a double overhand knot. This is a simple, efficient method and assures that your two hooks are always on bottom where they must be to catch ling. Incidentally, it's a good idea to add a third hook about three feet above the sinker to entice a few whiting, or that possible cod.

Wreck fishing for ling in the fall isn't recommended. You'll find more on open bottom, but if you'd like to give it a try, do it this way: dispense with the tandem rig. Instead, place one hook two inches above the sinker and the second about eighteen inches above it—or high enough to avoid tangling. You'll find most ling will seize the bottom hook, but any cod or pollack will latch on to the high hook.

Bait is never a problem when ling fishing. Skimmer clam is most always supplied on party boats. It isn't necessary to use cod-size baits; a slice cut from the tongue of the skimmer with some of the soft stomach at the end, is what ling relish. It's best to expose the hook point—ling never notice.

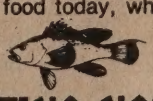
To save much re-baiting, fish bait can be used. Two inch strips, a half-inch wide, cut from a bergall, whiting, or a squid, will do the trick here. Ling strips make good bait, but tend to be soft and don't last long.

Ling are so greedy there is never a problem setting the hook. They aren't tricky and rarely does the fisherman fail to hook his fish at the first bite. In fact, if jigging is done with one-foot sweeps of the rod tip, they will hook themselves without any effort on the fisherman's part.

Much ling fishing is done at anchor, but when conditions are right for slow drifting, this method is perhaps best of all. Clam shells and mashed whole skimmer can be used for chum when anchored. Just be sure the bits and pieces aren't too small. If they are, the current will carry them off too far to do you much good. Use whole, cracked skimmers for best results and drop them close by the side of the boat near your line.

Because ling are soft-fleshed, it is best to clean them as soon as possible—especially if the day is warm. Ling scale easily and there is no trouble when a good scaler is used. When gutted and beheaded and washed in sea water, they will be in prime condition when you arrive home.

You'll find ling good eating and if you have a deep freeze, one or two trips will give you many delicious meals over the winter. At the price of food today, what more could you ask for?

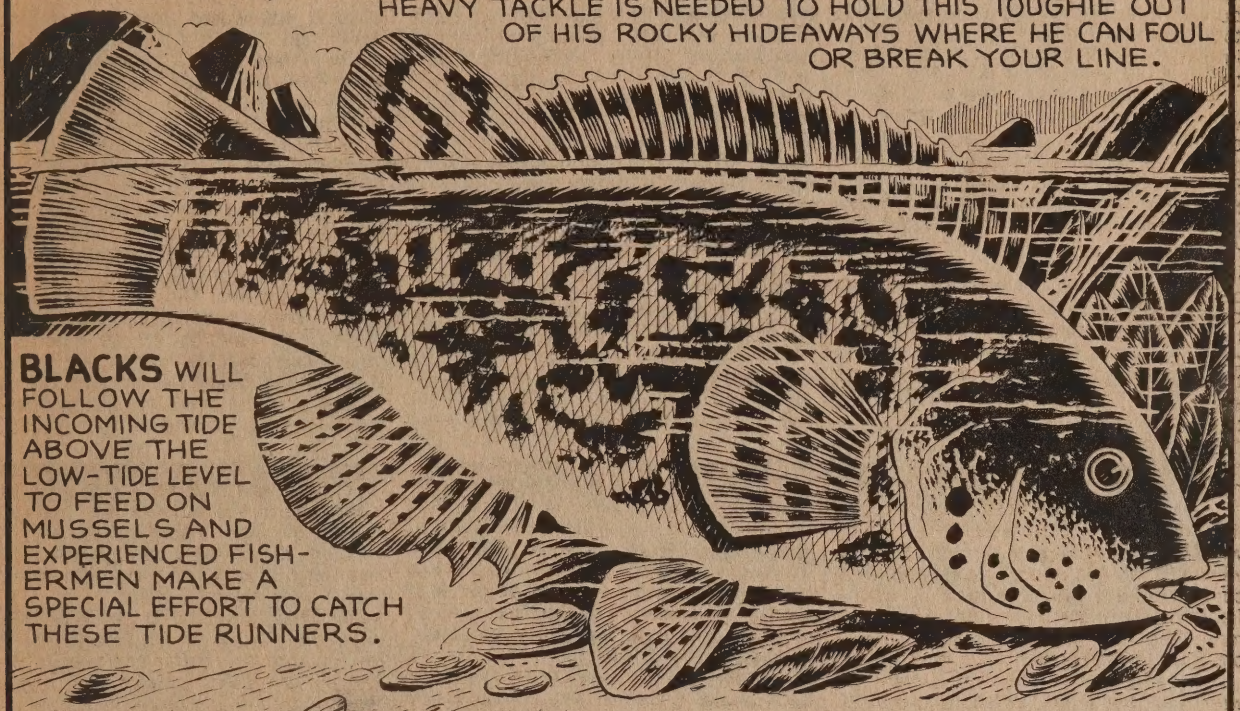


★ MEETING NOTICE ★

The next meeting of *The N.Y. Sportfishing Council* will be held at 7:30 PM on Wed., Nov. 2nd at he Holiday Inn in Plainview. This is the Annual Meeting, and new officers and board members will be elected. All are urged to attend.

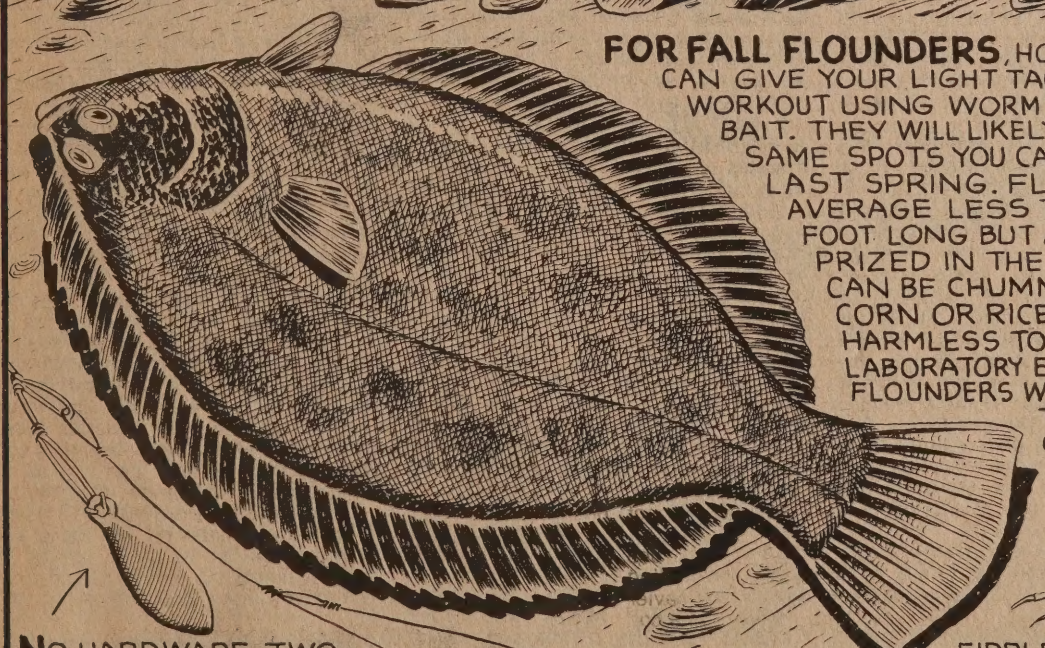
FALL BLACKS & FLATTIES

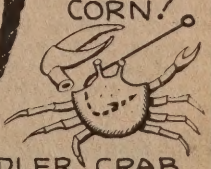
BLACKFISH OR TAUTOGS, IN THEIR FALL RUN, CHOOSE ROCKY BOTTOMS AND REEFS AND ARE FISHED WITH FIDDLER OR GREEN CRAB BAIT. THEY AVERAGE 3 LBS., 10-POUNDERS ARE NOT RARE, BUT RECORD BLACKS TIP 20 LBS. HEAVY TACKLE IS NEEDED TO HOLD THIS TOUGHIE OUT OF HIS ROCKY HIDEAWAYS WHERE HE CAN FOUL OR BREAK YOUR LINE.



BLACKS WILL FOLLOW THE INCOMING TIDE ABOVE THE LOW-TIDE LEVEL TO FEED ON MUSSELS AND EXPERIENCED FISHERMEN MAKE A SPECIAL EFFORT TO CATCH THESE TIDE RUNNERS.

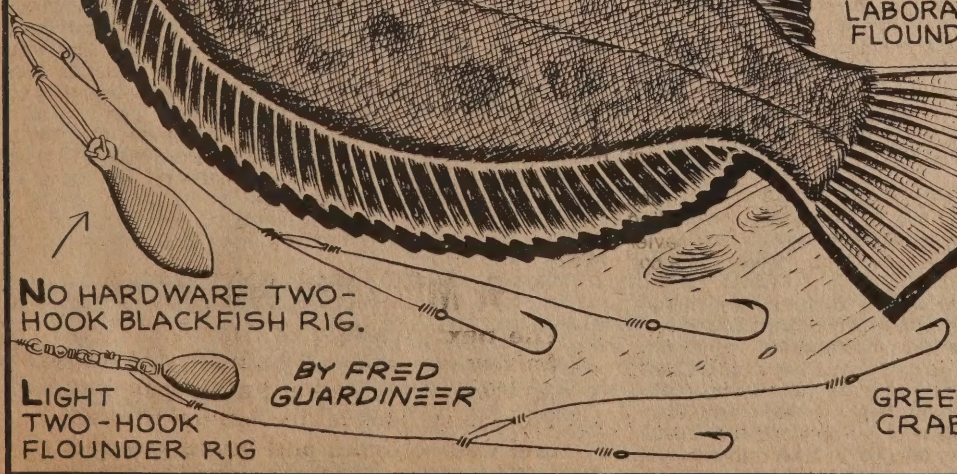
FOR FALL FLOUNDERS, HOWEVER, YOU CAN GIVE YOUR LIGHT TACKLE A WORKOUT USING WORM AND CLAM BAIT. THEY WILL LIKELY BE IN THE SAME SPOTS YOU CAUGHT THEM LAST SPRING. FLATTIES AVERAGE LESS THAN A FOOT LONG BUT ARE HIGHLY PRIZED IN THE PAN. THEY CAN BE CHUMMED WITH CORN OR RICE WHICH IS HARMLESS TO THEM. IN LABORATORY EXPERIMENTS FLOUNDERS WERE FOUND TO GROW FAT ON CANNED KERNEL CORN!





FIDDLER CRAB

GREEN CRAB



NO HARDWARE TWO-HOOK BLACKFISH RIG.

LIGHT TWO-HOOK FLOUNDER RIG

BY FRED GUARDINEER

FISH TALK
with Dr. William A. Muller

FLOUNDER

Hi! I'm a flounder. Fred J. Flounder actually. You know, I've got a pretty good life. I was talking to a fisherman friend of mine the other day, and I was amazed to discover that people consider my everyday table fare as gourmet quality. How do you like that? I always thought that fish food was less than desirable to humans. Why, I remember when I was in school as a youngster, that my teacher told me that flounders eat things out of the mud and that if I wanted to be a successful and upstanding flounder, I would have to learn how to grub in the sediment for my dinner. Well, I tell you that I learned my lessons well and I am a successful flounder. I'm three-years-old now and I weigh about one pound. I'm a big cheese in my little corner of the bay.

NOW I FIND OUT THAT PEOPLE LOVE TO EAT mussels, clams, and shrimp. Gee, I wonder if people will use all of their complicated machines to take my food away from me. Oh well, some old gentleman flounder I know told me that people will never learn to eat worms, piggyback snails, and the like, so I guess that I'll always have plenty to eat. But I sure love those tiny shrimp-like amphipods!

I STARTED TO SAY THAT LIFE IS GOOD TO ME. I get up just a little after sunrise and usually my breakfast is waiting right beside me. Sometimes, if the tide is sluggish, I may not get hungry until later in the morning, but I make up for it with a hearty brunch.

FEW GAME FISH BOTHER ME, especially when I move into my spring and fall home. The bays are pretty clear of those big guys with the gaping mouths and sharp teeth. The only time that I really have to worry, is when I migrate inshore and offshore. I really have no choice either. I simply can't take that hot water. It makes me listless, I'm tired all the time, I lose my appetite—I catch cold easy too. Man! I've got to get into deeper colder water when the temperature starts to push towards seventy degrees. Some of the youngsters stay inshore all year, but when you get to be my size, the old arthritis starts acting up if I stay inshore too long. Actually, now that I'm all grown up, not too many of the angry predators bother me. I'm a little too big for most stripers right now, although I must admit that toothy blues are a bother. CHOP, CHOP, that's all they know. BORING!

MY REAL CONCERN AT THIS STAGE OF THE GAME IS CODFISH. Gee, they have big mouths, and when they go on a feeding binge, they'll shovel in anything and everything.

WELL, ANYWAY, THERE ARE HAPPIER MOMENTS. Take, for example, the time Millie and I had our first spawn. The little critters were really cute. Oh incidentally, Millie is my wife. Most of those kids are gone now. Only a handful are still alive and they're scattered all along the northeastern seaboard. We tried to teach them everything that we knew, but life is tough in the sea. From the moment the eggs are laid, there are plenty of eager eaters waiting to gobble up even the eggs. But we try to play our part in the scheme of things. That is, we know that all the fish and other animals that share the sea with us have to have something to eat; so we don't feel too bad.

WE SHARE THE SEA! Some of those big toothy characters think that they own the sea, but we flounders know better. The same waters that we enter in the early spring are used by weaks in the late spring; porgies, sea bass, fluke, etc., in the summer, and in some places, bass and blues later on. We take our turn eating the available food or being eaten, and thus the cycle of life and the flow of nutrients through the chain of life continues. You've got to be down here to appreciate the way things are. Most humans look at the sea from above the surface: they rarely see the life beneath the surface unless the water is very clear and they look very hard. To the casual observer, the sea is a desert. The sea is a place of nomadic existence: even the species like flounder, which stay pretty close to home, migrate with the seasons. Those tuna and billfish—why, they think nothing of swimming thousands of miles! It's a truly fluid world.

I ALMOST WAS CAUGHT BY A FISHERMAN. This guy was fishing with mussels and when I saw that delicious hunk of mussel sitting there, my bug-eyes almost flew out of my head. I was hungry, but then I usually am. I rushed over to it and took a sniff. Smelled right, looked right—why not? I sucked in that bait and, suddenly my head was wrenched off the bottom. And lucky for me that's the way this guy fished. Real herky-jerky. Before the hook was set, I was able to open my mouth and the hook slipped right out. Now if this guy had lifted slowly, I would have dug for the bottom and when he set the hook, it would have stuck right in the side of my mouth.

WELL, I'M A LOT SMARTER NOW! That's how a little flounder gets to be a big flounder. It will take a lot to fool me today. I look over everything that I eat very closely no matter how hungry I am.

HOW I MET MY FISHERMAN FRIEND. One day, Millie and I were drifting with the tide looking for a bite to eat. Suddenly, there were four yellow globs of mussel. Millie, who had never had an encounter with a fisherman, wanted to rush right over and gobble them up. But I stopped her and explained things. I took her over there and I showed her the hooks and leaders. She was astounded. Well, as luck would have it, one of last spring's youngsters came bouncing along, and quick as a wink, wolfed down a mussel. Now that fisherman knew his beans. He lifted slowly until the little fish turned and headed for the bottom; then he set the hook. He reeled him in. Millie started to cry and I tried to comfort her. But that fisherman took the little guy off the hook very gently and released him. The little flatfish was O.K. I was impressed! I decided to do something that no other fish had ever done before.

SO, I SWAM TO THE SURFACE. Now, I can't speak his language and he can't speak mine, but he was a sensitive guy, and after a little effort, we found a way to communicate. I thanked him for letting the little one go and he nodded. He explained that he didn't want to hurt fish, but he had to eat too. This I understood, because as I just explained, that's the way life is in the sea, too. There is a big difference between malicious harm and the need for survival. He fishes about once a week, and every time I see the hull of his boat, I go top-side and we "chat."

FLOUNDERS ARE CERTAINLY GLAD THAT YOU HUMANS HAVE RESOLVED the corn controversy. We love it, and there usually isn't a hook inside to bother any of us. We grow fast on it and aside from a hearty burp now and then, it's good for us too.

I'M NOT THE TRAVELLING KIND. I swim out to sea for the summer, but I make sure that I come back here to my little corner of the bay each year. Some of the friends that I grew up with have visited many states up and down the coast. They say that they get bored with the same old scenery; but I know what's happening around here, and I like it that way.

ONE YEAR I DECIDED TO WINTER OVER IN THE MUD. I don't mind the mud, but I almost died trying to dodge those eel spears. The bay froze over and there were a couple of dozen people making holes in the ice and jabbing the mud with spears. When I'm cold, I have a lot of trouble moving. I'm slow and it was only good fortune that spared my life. I vowed to head out to sea after that.

IT'S SURE BEEN NICE TO TALK WITH YOU. Maybe I'll see you one of these days out on the water. Maybe if I see you release one of the little guys, I'll trust you enough to come up and say, Hi!

DON'T DELAY—
Subscribe TODAY!

Navigation & Seamanship

with Capt. Irv Levine

T.V.M.D.C. and Compass Rose

Very often a fishing hotspot is announced to the public in this fashion: "Captain Queeg reports—sighted huge school of blues 180° from inlet in 130 ft. of water." The question is: was that 180° true course, magnetic course, or compass course? Unfortunately, there is much to be desired about this statement.

1. At what point or location was this 180° plotted?

2. Variation is different from area to area and deviation is different on every vessel—not to mention current set and current speed. It might be appropriate at this time for a short review.

Fact: Deviation is any magnetic material on your vessel and is the angular difference between the magnetic course and compass course. Variation is the same for every vessel in a particular area. However, variation does change slightly year to year and is different from one area to another. This is the angular difference between true course and the magnetic course and it is spelled out in the compass rose.

Fact: Compass error is the sum total of variation and deviation; therefore, it is of prime importance to learn and to know how to use the formula TVMDC.

Reminder: Variation and deviation can be easterly or westerly. T (true); V (variation); M (magnetic); D (deviation); C (compass). When going from true course to compass course down scale, add all westerly errors and subtract easterly errors. When going from compass course to true course up scale, add easterly errors and subtract westerly errors. True, magnetic, and compass, must be expressed in three digits. EX: 002°, 012°, 112°. Variation and deviation will be expressed as they are. EX: 5°E, 5°W, 10°E, 12°W.

Plotting your course: A set of clear plastic twelve to fifteen inch long parallel rules, dividers, sharp pointed pencils and an eraser, and you are in business. The rules and dividers should cost about $5-$6 total. Be sure that the linkage on the rules are not bent and not too tight at the pivot points. The little rubber or cork feet on the blades should keep them from slipping or sliding on your chart. When laying off a course, should the parallel rules slip, don't try to re-adjust them, but start over again. The dividers have a purpose and one of them isn't for chipping ice. Hold the dividers by the pivot point and not by the arms, when measuring a course. This will prevent accidental movement of the arms, which could easily increase or decrease measurement. When constructing a course, be very sure that your course line does not run through or over any obstruction that is dangerous to your travel.

Consult chart #1 for symbols that you are not familiar with. Use the outside of your rule and draw a straight line from point of departure to the exact point you want to arrive at. Without shifting the rule, walk or slide the rules in short steps until one of the outside rules crosses through the center of the compass rose in the area you are charting. Now put a little hand pressure on that rule and draw a light line from the center of the rose through the rings of the rose in the direction you are traveling. If you should construct your course line completely through the rose, be careful you don't read the reciprocal. One other hint worth remembering: all too often the depth of water will be found around, and within, the rose. Be careful and don't read the depth for a degree reading. Take your time; apply the formula TVMDC. After you have constructed enough course lines, you will note that these lines are parallel to the lines you have constructed over the compass rose.

There are different types of protractors for fixing your course line, so the choice is yours. A boat owner I know, told me that with all of this, he still can't locate some offshore buoys consistently with accuracy—and no wonder. His boat had a compass of such poor quality, that the slightest movement would cause the compass card to rotate wildly. Add this to all sorts of magnetic fishing tackle surrounding the compass, and the fact that the compass was never adjusted properly. Let's assume these situations either were corrected, or never existed and still the desired destination was out of reach. Small wonder—current direction (direction current is going) and speed of current were never considered, and this could spell problems.

Very fast boats are somewhat affected, but not nearly as much as a slower vessel. For instance, true course is 110°, vessel speed is 10 knots, current setting is 140° and the

(Continued on page 15.)

				1	2	3	4
	T			T 135°	T 135°	T 135°	T 135°
+ W	V	-W		V 12°W	V 12°W	V 12°W	V 12°W
- E	M	+E		M	M 147°	M 147°	M 147°
Down	D	Up		D	D	D 7°E	D 7°E
Scale	C	Scale		C	C	C	C 140°

1. True course is 135° with a westerly variation of 12°W.
2. The magnetic course would then be 147°.
3. The deviation card for your vessel indicates a 7° easterly error for a magnetic reading of 147°.
4. Compass course is 140°.

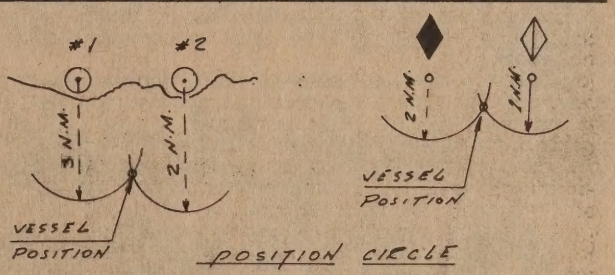
You can check your figures by going up the scale Cc to Tc.

PRACTICE PROBLEMS YOU CAN TRY: 1. Tc 358°, Va 10°W, Mc? 2. Mc 172°, Va 8°E, Tc? 3. Cc 050°, De 5°W, Mc? 4. Mc 008°, De 7°E, Cc? 5. Mc 063°, Cc 063°, De? 6. Tc 150°, Mc 162°, Cc 159°, Va? De? 7. Tc 356°, De 12°E, Cc 008°, Mc? Va?

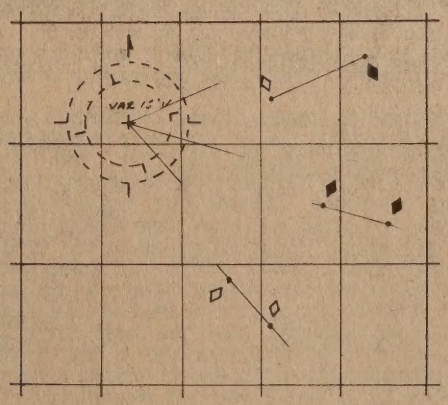
ANSWERS: 1. Mc 008°. 2. Tc 180°. 3. Mc 045°. 4. Cc 001°. 5. De 0°. 6. Va 12°W, De 3°E. 7. Mc 020°, De 24°W.

COMPASS ERROR IS THE SUM TOTAL OF VARIATION AND DEVIATION.

Va 5°E	Va 5°W	Va 11°W	Va 15°E
De 5°E	De 7°W	De 5°E	De 7°W
10°E	12°W	6°W	8°E



POSITION CIRCLE



COURSE PLOT

Inshore Fishing

with Scott J. Simons

Autumn's Mixed Bag at Montauk

One of the remarkable things that I have always loved about fishing at Montauk is the wide diversity of fish that you can expect (or **not** expect) to catch here. When you send your line down at Montauk, you never know **what** kind of fish is going to come up on it! I've put down a clam bait for porgies and been surprirsed by striped bass up to twenty-five pounds; while drifting strip baits for fluke, alligator blues up to eighteen-and-a-half pounds; squidding with diamond jigs for bass I've bagged cod to twenty-five pounds and sea bass to four pounds; albacore to twelve pounds while casting bucktails; I could go on forever.

At no time of the year is this remarkable "mixed bag" aspect of Montauk fishing more evident than during autumn when the leaves start to change color. But all the leaves don't change color or fall off the trees on the same day: some trees will start their changes in early October, some in mid or late October, while others will remain green right into November. Even trees of the same species may go through their changes weeks apart—and so it is with fish. As the water temperature begins to drop, our summer species begin to make their offshore or southern migrations to the wintering grounds. But it is a disjointed effort. Each species will have its eager-beavers that jump the gun to be the first to leave; then the migration will build to a peak of activity (when the fishing is best for us), then gradually (or suddenly due to weather) taper off. But just as the beginning of the migration will have its early birds anxious to leave, the end of the run invariably has its stragglers that hang around the area until the water temperature becomes unbearable.

This same migration pattern of "early starters, peak run, stragglers" phenomena is evident in the inshore movement of the cold water species. There seems to be a period, usually just when the water temperature drops below sixty degrees, that the migrations of the warm water fish moving offshore and the cold water fish moving inshore overlap. During the next three weeks, Montauk fishermen will be seeing much of this overlapping, creating the mixed bags of autumn. Within the next few days, for example, I would expect to hear the first report of codfish being trolled on an umbrella rig meant for striped bass. And who knows—the way the pollack have been making such a come-back in the spring, we may see that rarest of fishing feats, the "Montauk Hat Trick": which is a striped bass, bluefish, cod and a pollack adorning the four arms of an umbrella rig!

During the next few weeks, if you fish Montauk you can expect to take a mixed-bag of any combination of the following species: striped bass, bluefish, weakfish, cod, bonito, albacore, pollack, porgy, sea bass, blackfish, spiny dogfish, whiting, ling, snowshoe flounder and possibly even a straggling fluke. It's possible to even make a game out of it. Fishing one day around Great Eastern about this time last year, my friend Frank and I had a real "string" going—we put six fish in a row in the box without repeating one species twice! I don't remember the exact order the fish were taken in, but I believe we took a striped bass, sea bass, porgy, fluke, cod and a bluefish. I do remember that it was a second bluefish that broke the string. It's also interesting to note that the fluke was really a million-to-one shot. Not only should the "straggler" fluke not have been there, but it didn't even bite on the hook! We were squidding with diamond jigs and Frank must have dropped it right on the fish's back, because it was hooked under the skin dead-center. As he worked the fish "broadside" to the surface, Frank kept mumbling "Big bass, cheez, big bass"—never have I seen such a disappointed look on a fisherman's face after catching a four pound fluke!

(That reminds me of a funny, but heart-rending scene that I saw last Wednesday while diamond jigging at the Pollack Rip. We were fishing close by a small boat trolling umbrella rigs, the anglers aboard obviously new at what they were doing. While moving my boat back into position up-tide,

The Montauk Lighthouse stands guard over Long Island's eastern tip.

Professional charterboats like Capt. Warren Hader's *Devilfish* are available in the fall for fishing for a mixed bag of striped bass, blues, cod, big sea bass, blackfish, snowshoe flounder, whiting, ling, etc.

I saw them waving me off—they were all excited about the "monster bass" they had on. Swinging wide of their stern to avoid cutting their line, I passed within a few yards of the fish, which was just under the surface. It was a "nice" bass of about fifteen to eighteen pounds—one hook in the mouth, another in the tail, bent in half and being pulled in against the current broadside! Talk about disappointed anglers!)

To experience this mixed-bag fishing at Montauk first-hand, I suggest that you get four or five of your buddies together and arrange for a full day charter. A full day trip is much easier to get now on a weekend than on-season, but if at all possible try to make it on a weekday when the boat traffic is considerably less and the fishing as a rule is much better. The reason I suggest a full day charter rather than a half-day is you want to give the Captain plenty of time to explore the many fishing areas. Make sure to tell him you want to spend at least an hour or two bottom fishing with bait, and some time diamond jigging, in addition to trolling the wire. When arranging the charter, make sure you let the Captain know that you want to go for a potpourri and are not overly concerned with how many bluefish are thrown on the dock. Most captains want to please their customers and will cooperate if they know what you want. Expect to pay extra for any bait used.

So how come I'm not urging you to trailer your boat out

there for fishing, you may be wondering. Easy—I don't want anyone reading this article to end up "biting the worm" as a result—I'd have a guilty conscience. The sad fact of the matter is that Montauk in the fall is no place for the small boat fisherman unfamiliar with the area. This time of year winds of fifteen to twenty-five knots are almost considered normal, and the wind can suddenly go from almost nothing to gale force in only a few minutes, which can find a small boat in the wrong place at the wrong time—namely, anywhere outside the jetties. Just a slight shift in the wind direction or a change of tide can quickly raise white water all around you. Seas safe for a forty-foot-plus charterboat can be disastrous for a small boat; so please leave the skiffs home, and let someone else be the Captain for a day.

Listed below are some of the many areas that can be fished in one day at Montauk:

GREAT EASTERN: Striped bass and bluefish trolling umbrellas or diamond jigging on outgoing water. Bottom fishing for mixed bag. Use hi-low rig with fresh skimmer clam, chumpot with clam bellies around both sides of the change of tide when current is slow. Occasional cod can be expected.

POLLACK RIP: Trolling umbrellas, bucktails, parachutes for striped bass, bluefish, occasional cod. Also diamond jigging. Outgoing water.

ELBOW: Trolling everything, diamond jigging, for striped bass, blues, bonus cod.

UNDER THE LIGHT: Casting small white bucktails during the day or various surface plugs at dawn and dusk for striped bass and bluefish. Don't overlook big flounder in the mussel beds in the area. Use mussels for bait and chum or clam bellies.

SOUTHSIDE: Stretching from Lighthouse to sand beaches past the village. Always a gamble, but worth a try for the many bonanzas. Usually feast or famine. Standard trolling techniques, or diamond jigging under birds.

CARTWRIGHT: Alligator blues on herring or bunker baits, diamond jigging. Bottom fishing for cod and big bulldog blackfish. Use hi-low rig, top hook baited with skimmer for cod, bottom hook with green crabs for blackfish.

SOUTHWEST LEDGE: Bottom fishing with skimmer clams for big sea bass, cod and blackfish. Many blacks if using green crabs. Good bluefishing at times trolling, jigging.

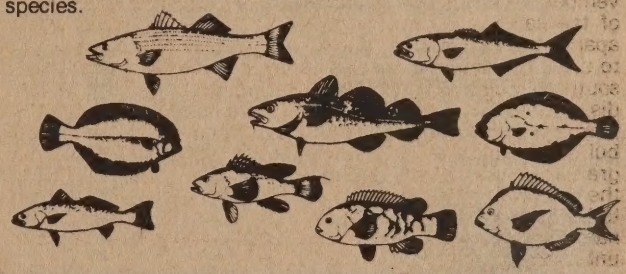
SUBMARINE BUOY: Bluefish by any method, usually well into November. Occasional cod.

MIDWAY SHOALS: (Rips) Striped bass trolling umbrellas, feathers, jigging bucktails or parachute rigs on incoming tide. Also diamond jigging. Occasional cod, possible large sea bass.

OUTER SHAGWONG: Trolling umbrella rigs and white bucktails during the day and large swimming plugs at night for striped bass and bluefish. Also a blackfisherman's paradise. Anchor up in the rocky areas around the twin buoys and use a chumpot with clam bellies or crushed mussels. Green crabs for bait a must. Average black taken here is five to eight pounds with many tens and fish up to fourteen common.

CULLODEN POINT: Strictly bottom fishing. Chum pot with clam bellies and fresh skimmers for bait. Green crabs if you are interested in small or medium blackfish. Later in the season a hotspot for ling and whiting fishing. Rocky areas and mussel beds also have a year-round population of snowshoe flounder which shouldn't be overlooked.

CEREBRUS SHOALS: Due north out of the jetties, a good area to fish when the weather is erratic. Bottom fishing for cod, large sea bass and whiting and ling later in the year. Blackfish also numerous, use green crabs. Clams for all other bottom species.



Why your line should glow when you're fishing for stripers.

The better you see your line, the better you can control it. That's a big help when you're trying to bring your cast down in the midst of a school of feeding stripers. In heavy surf, you can keep track of your plug by keeping sight of your line. On a boat, whether you're trolling, drifting or in the middle of fighting a good fish, being able to see your line is your best insurance against getting tangled in other lines.

That's why Du Pont invented the line that glows.

To give you better control, Du Pont invented *Stren*® fluorescent monofilament. The patented glow of *Stren* is actually in the line. It's activated by the sun's ultraviolet rays. From dawn to dusk. Even on cloudy days. Underwater, where UV is filtered out, the glow is deactivated.

You need a choice of colors.

Stren comes in different colors to suit different fishing conditions. Clear/Blue glows a soft blue; fine for most fishing against dark water and foliage. Golden *Stren* has even greater visibility for bright days or cluttered backgrounds. And high contrast Orange really "pops," even against the glare of big water and bright skies.

There's more to Stren than meets the eye.

Du Pont research has given *Stren* the right balance of properties you need. Superior knot strength—frequently up to 100% as strong as unknotted line. Great tensile strength with small diameter. Proper limpness for easier handling and casting. Tough abrasion and shock resistance. And controlled stretch to set your hook fast.

Try a spool of *Stren*. You can see it, you can control it. And control catches more fish than luck.

The line you see is the line you control.

The FISHERMAN CLUB SALTWATER FISHING CONTEST

★ SEPTEMBER CONTEST RESULTS ★

CLUB NAME	★ SURF ★ BASS	BLUES	WEAKS	★ BOAT ★ BASS	BLUES	WEAKS	Sept. Pts.	Total Pts.
★ MASSACHUSETTS ★								
CAPE COD SALTIES	842	282	20	398	149		1682	5547
PIONEER VALLEY SURF CLUB	40	82	18	186			326	2281
LINESIDER BASS CLUB				122	77		199	1323
★ RHODE ISLAND ★								
WOONSOCKET BASS CLUB	748	296	24	340	124		1532	6793
THE JONAH'S	608	282	108	302	158	13	1469	4982
OCEAN STATE STRIPER CLUB	414	190	16	21	124		765	3406
SOUTH COUNTRY ROD & GUN CLUB	126	18	18	369	168		697	2896
NARRAGANSETT PIER SPORTFISHING	50	180		287	85	43	625	2218
EAST BAY ANGLERS		272			143		415	1828
VFW POST 5392 FISHING CLUB					82	9	91	1188
RIVERSIDE SPORTFISHING CLUB					118		118	1132
BLACKSTONE VALLEY STRIPER CLUB				179	63		242	496
★ CONNECTICUT ★								
CONN. RIVER STRIPED BASS CLUB	400	286		382	164		1212	3428
HARTFORD SURF FISHING CLUB	620	218	26		87	27	978	2512
WESTPORT STRIPED BASS CLUB		282			157		439	1973
MILFORD STRIPED BASS CLUB		26			154	24	204	1275
DUNHAM SALTIES								102
STRATFORD BOAT OWNERS								42
★ NEW YORK ★								
LONG BEACH STRIPED BASS CLUB	842	208		257	102		1408	6067
STRIPER SURF CLUB	726	256	122				1104	4996
LONG ISLAND STRIPER CLUB	742	270	40				1052	4833
EMPIRE STRIPER ASSOCIATION	630	314	50	19	147	80	1220	4615
KINGS BAY STRIPER CLUB	424	372		242	159	84	1281	4018
HUNTINGTON ANGLERS	68	28		342	139	29	606	3550
NORTH SHORE ANGLERS				391	160	45	596	2483
FARRAGUT STRIPER CLUB	608	306	28	15	77	33	1067	2100
PATCHOGUE FISHING CLUB	136	264	14	47	88		549	2051
STATEN ISLAND SURF CLUB	448	270		154	101	12	985	1993
SKUNKED AGAIN FISHING ASSOC.	394	224		18	185	142	961	1901
BEACHCOMBER SURF & FUN CLUB	70	266	28		40		404	1871
GREAT SOUTH BAY ANGLERS	166	200	142	184	128	108	928	1828
CAUSEWAY FISHING CLUB		60		252	101		413	1349
MANHASSETT BAY SPORTSMENS CLUB		156			150	6	312	1157
SOUND & SURF FISHING CLUB	30	64	26		158	22	298	1103
EASTERN ANGLERS		14			155		169	1084
BAY END STRIPER CLUB				199	125	87	411	965
HAMPTON'S SURF CLUB	30	184	18		82		314	935
SURFERS OF LONG ISLAND	86	18		77	112	5	298	920
BABYLON TUNA CLUB								774
MILL RIVER ROD & GUN		46			135		181	708
N. BROOKHAVEN SPORTFISHING CLUB		158	22	31	120	38	369	686
FISHING BUGS OF BROOKLYN					85	15	80	609
BAYVIEW ROD & GUN CLUB					115		115	529
NEW ANGLERS					73	6	79	426
SURF & SEA ANGLERS					127		127	366
CENTER ANGLERS								288
HUNGERLEIDER FISHING CLUB					98		98	207
OTHER PLACE ANGLERS								90
FREEPORT TUNA CLUB								21
FISHING POST								14
★ PENNSYLVANIA ★								
DELAWARE VALLEY SURF ANGLERS	164	34					198	301
N. PHILA. SURF FISHING CLUB								22
★ NEW JERSEY ★								
ASBURY PARK FISHING CLUB	464	42	12	177	109		804	4297
BERKELEY STRIPER CLUB	280	10	18				308	2164
LONG BRANCH FISHING CLUB	80	36	106	77			299	1436
BRUNSWICK SURF CLUB	64	60	32				156	667
HUDSON RIVER FISHERMENS ASSOC.				104	80		184	984
NOR'EAST STRIPER CLUB								258
L.B.I. SURF ANGLERS ASSOC.	60	92					162	172
COLUMBIA								105

The Top Ten

CLUB NAME	STATE	TOTAL PTS.
1. WOONSOCKET BASS CLUB	RHODE ISLAND	6793
2. LONG BEACH STRIPED BASS CLUB	NEW YORK	6067
3. CAPE COD SALTIES	MASSACHUSETTS	5547
4. STRIPER SURF CLUB	NEW YORK	4996
5. THE JONAH'S	RHODE ISLAND	4982
6. LONG ISLAND STRIPER CLUB	NEW YORK	4833
7. EMPIRE STRIPER ASSN.	NEW YORK	4615
8. ASBURY PARK FISHING CLUB	NEW JERSEY	4297
9. KINGS BAY STRIPER CLUB	NEW YORK	4018
10. HUNTINGTON ANGLERS	NEW YORK	3550

Surf Side with John Fritz

NOVEMBER PROSPECTS

The brisk northwest winds sent a fine spray into the faces of the two lonely anglers standing in the turbulent waters of a dying tide at North Bar. The combination of thirty-five degree temperatures, twenty mile per hour winds, and wet exposed hands and face, made every minute spent in the water seem like an eternity. Time after time, the bottle plugs were cast into the inky blackness, followed by the agonizingly slow retrieve towards the beach. The tendency to hurry this procedure had to be consciously warded off. The oft repeated phrase, "There's got to be fish here," uttered back and forth, sounded more like a plea than a statement of fact.

Your imagination can manufacture the outcome, but if the scene took place in '76, you won't have to guess. By the time you read this, you will have a good indication whether '77 is a repeat of '76 or good fall fishing will be had, as in previous years.

November weather can vary in extremes from summer-like days to blinding snowstorms. While weather conditions can vary greatly from day to day, longer periods of time are necessary to lower the water temperature. Therefore, bass and blues will be present in our coastal waters throughout this month.

The bay areas and Long Island Sound will be the first places to be vacated by our departing game fish. On the north shore, intercepting retreating schools early in the month can provide hectic action, but get your fill when you find them, for tomorrow they'll be gone.

Restrictions on access to the beaches are eased by this time of the year so that your car can be used to cover a large stretch of shoreline. The north fork, as far west as Port Jefferson, is ideally suited for this purpose. Of prime concern is the distance these schools are traveling off the beach. The fall migration leaves many frustrated surfmen standing on the sand helpless, as vast schools of fish feed hungrily on the surface, too far off to reach.

The cooling water temperature does provide one north shore location where the fish can be pinned down. The Lilco outflow at Northport and the adjacent beaches to the east as far as Crabmeadow will offer an opportunity to catch fish if the retreating schools prove to be elusive.

Montauk Point from Shagwong through the Lighthouse area, to the south side beaches is an excellent place to waylay these schools. Often the bass and blues will pause in their migration to feed heavily on the hordes of bait being flushed around the Point.

Most north winds will push the bait into the wash, hopefully followed by the predator schools, in the area bounded by Shagwong and the Lighthouse. Long casts are often not necessary during strong blows, for the fish will be at your feet. Northwest winds at North Bar on the drop and at the Lighthouse on the incoming, produce; while a northeast is probably the best for this area. During a strong east blow the bait will sometimes stack up in Clark's Cove until the rush of the ebbing tide flushes this bait through the rip at North Bar and on around the Point.

Use your poppers and tins during daylight, while the night-owls generally rely on the large darters and bottle plugs at this time of the year.

Riding the miles of sandy beaches along the south shore seeking surface activity or fishing eels or bunker on the bottom will produce from Ditch Plains to Jones Inlet. Any daylight activity can be worked with tin or poppers; while in the fall, bait will work day or night.

The inlet areas along the south shore are less crowded than the much-proclaimed Montauk; therefore, your selection of swimming plugs can be expanded to include Rebels, RedFins, Danny's, or Atoms. The better time to fish these inlets is during the last half of the ebb. Therefore, if you must confine your fishing to one specific location, choose the nearest inlet and work it faithfully, learning where the rips form on different stages of the tide. Bait fish being flushed out of the rapidly cooling bays on the falling tide will delay passing schools of game fish for your pleasure.

Keep an ear tuned to reports of schools of bunker or tinker mackerel being spotted along your stretch of beach. If possible, follow these schools for it is only a matter of time before they are located and fed upon by cow bass and savage blues. When the predators are feeding on large bait, they are more easily enticed into striking a plug than when quantities of small bait are present, as is common in spring fishing.

On strong east quarter winds, schools of small bass are sometimes found in protected pockets along the coastline. Check the lee side of any jetties, particularly the west jetty at Shinnecock or the Democrat jetty; small tins or bucktails may be productive near these jetties. The Cedar Bar, if allowed to build up naturally now that the dredging has ceased, offers the same effect.

The sandy south shore beaches can produce at low water by wading to the first bar and working the outside lip as you edge along. If this is done at night, be careful of stepping into sluices caused by the water periodically cutting this bar in its rush seaward. These cuts, by the way, are worth extra effort, as they are favorite haunts for lazy bass. The Robert Moses Tower has a bar formed at its front which has seen fast action in November, year after year. This flurry is of short duration, so it is possible it will be finished if you wait to read about it in the papers.

Live eels and bunker fished from these same beaches will continue to reward the patient angler with bass and good-sized blues throughout most of the month. Use monofilament leaders to start, changing to wire only if blues make their presence known.

The three Point Lookout jetties are good places for those of you living nearby to concentrate your attention. If you reside further west, prime territory is found amongst the jetties from Long Beach through the Rockaways. Swimming plugs at night and fresh bunker at any time, are good items to try. The large inlet jetties at Atlantic Beach and Breezy Point, although requiring more work to reach, offer superior fishing for those willing to make the effort. Add to your list of lures heavy bucktails worked deep into the rips at the tip.

The one bright spot in last fall's fishing scene was the 69th Street Pier in Brooklyn. Many bass to ten pounds were taken well into December. The favored lure for this activity was small white bucktails.

Except for a few die-hards or the frost-bite clan at Northport, November brings down the curtain on another fishing year. I do hope these month-by-month, rundowns of the fishing possibilities has resulted in a few more fish on your stringer. If the pattern of striped bass fishing continues its downward trend, as this year's beginning seems to indicate, we will need all the help we can get. Don't forget that this is a two-way street, and return all fish safely to the water which you will not use.

Have a safe winter, with fond memories of this past year's fishing, coupled with high expectations of next year's battle with Ol' Roccus.

NAUIGATION & SEAMANSHIP: *Compass Rose*

(Continued from page 11.)

current speed is 3 knots. The distance you want to cover is eight to ten nautical miles. In about three to five minutes and less with practice, you could have easily calculated a new course. The new true course for the problem was 102°, and this vessel was being pushed a healthy 14.5 knots. Without question, current and current speed must be considered. Hopefully, in the near future, I will be able to show you how this is done with ease. Suppose you found a good spot for fishing or lazing around and you wanted to return to that same place again. For one reason or another, you didn't or couldn't use, your compass. No problem. Look for any two stationary objects on land or on the water and locate these objects on your chart. You have determined object #1 is three miles away and object #2 is two miles away. Draw a circle on your chart with object #1 as the center, with a radius of three miles. You are somewhere on that circle. Now draw a circle on your chart with object #2 as the center, with a radius of two miles. You are somewhere on that circle. Where these two circles intersect is your position. This method is called Position Circle.

Reminder: One degree of latitude equals one nautical mile.

CODFISHING

by Ron Onorato

★PART ONE★

It's that time of the year again. Old man winter is knocking on the door, and those icy north winds mean but one thing: it's codfish time. Sure, there are those of us who will pursue the striped bass all the way through Thanksgiving Day, but for a great majority of fishermen, November is codfish time.

There are numerous reasons for the popularity of the codfish. First, it is one of the better eating quality fish available in the Northeast area. Secondly, it is one of the few fish around that will take a baited hook during some of the coldest weather. It helps extend the regular season a couple of months, and makes the winter months just a little more bearable.

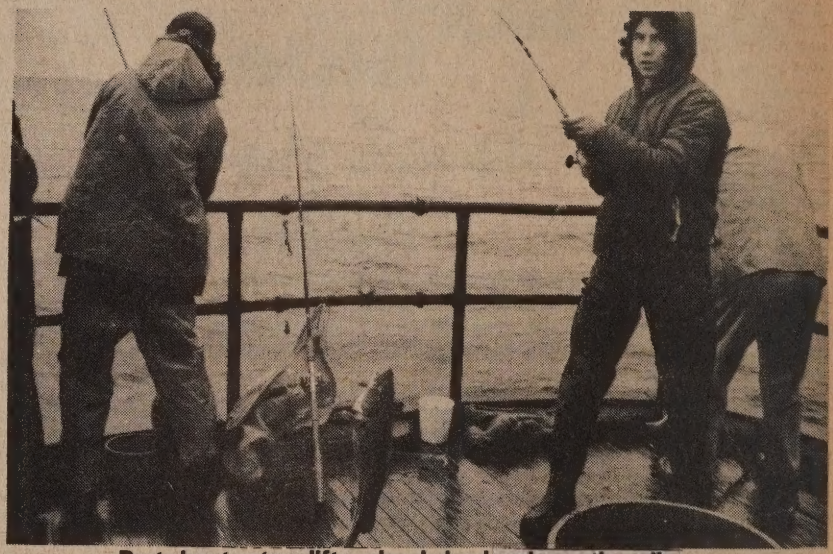
What does the codfish season look like this year? Judging by reports from many northern areas around Massachusetts and Maine, it looks like we may have a banner year. The main reason for this has been the closing of codfishing to the foreign fleets. Montauk had a banner spring and summer run, and all indications point to a fairly healthy stock. Now if only we get some decent weather this winter.

Codfish have been called the winter kings in many quarters, although they can be caught the year round in some areas. For most of us on Long Island, codfishing is a predominantly late fall and early winter deal. It is at this time that the schools of fish move in from the east and settle in on the local grounds.

Traditionally, Election Day has been the starting point for much of the West End codfishing. However, exceptionally mild autumn weather has pushed this starting point back a few weeks. Now it seems that the codfishing usually doesn't get going until the middle of November, with the better fishing taking place in early and mid-December. So, every fall is different and it will depend upon water temperature to see when things get going.

Codfish usually show up when the water temperature drops to about 50°. The optimum range is somewhere between 45°-47° and they can be caught when the water temperature gets as low as 39°.

Along the western end of Long Island, the fish almost always show up on many of the inshore wrecks long before they can be found on the open bottom. Actually cod can be found on some of the more distant wrecks which lie forty or fifty miles offshore, all summer long. While the cod hang in on the wrecks, hordes of spiny dogfish work over the open bottom grounds. When the water temperature drops down a bit more, the doggies leave the open bottom and the cod move in.



Party boat patron lifts school-sized cod over the rails.

Spiny dogfish creates quite a tangle for this fisherman.

Since the early part of the cod run will be centered around the wrecks, the first part of this article will cover wreck fishing from party boats. Unless a boat owner is equipped with a Loran and scanning sonar, most of the wreck fishing will be done from party boats. These boats are well equipped to locate many of the inshore wrecks, and since most of them are fairly fast, they can fish several wrecks in one day, if that's necessary.

If you're planning on going aboard a party boat for early codfish, try to make certain that you get out on the first or second trip that the boat makes. For the

most part, the wrecks haven't been fished, and are usually loaded for a few days. Then after several boats have fished them for several days, the wrecks get fished out with each successive trip, producing fewer fish. During the first few weeks of November, there will be anywhere from ten to twenty party boats from Captree on the east, to Sheepshead Bay on the west, all trying to fish the same wrecks. As you can see, it won't take long to clean them out.

Codfishing on the wrecks is really very exciting when you hit a loaded one. At this time of the year, many of the summer species such as porgies, sea bass and blackfish are migrating to their wintering grounds on the Continental Shelf, and often they will stop over on the wrecks to feed for a few weeks.

Wrecks represent the only obstructions on an otherwise even bottom and act as an oasis of sorts on the ocean bottom. A whole ecosystem is created around each wreck. First comes the barnacles and small crustacea such as crabs, mussels, clams, and lobsters. This, in turn, acts as forage for smaller fish such as ocean perch (bergalls), blackfish, porgies and sea bass. These smaller fish in turn provide feed for the cod and sometimes pollack. A healthy wreck abounds with all sorts of life.

Some wrecks are no more than small sections of broken barges or tugs, while others are huge, completely intact, sunken vessels. Some are quite old and are partially sanded over, while some are quite recent additions to Davy Jones' locker. A valuable source for finding the location of these wrecks are the many commercial draggers who hang their expensive nets in the foul bottom.

The chance of coming home with an assortment of fish always makes a wreck fishing trip an adventure. If you fail to connect with a codfish, you most always will have something tasty to take home to eat. Thus, you should be prepared for a variety of action.

I use a thirty pound outfit for wreck fishing and find it totally adequate for anything that may come along. A 3/0 Penn Special Retrieve filled with thirty pound mono on a metal spool, will fill the bill. Just match this outfit up with a matching rod and you're in business. No need to go to anything heavier as the weight of a heavier outfit will make it uncomfortable to use as the day goes on.

You can rig your terminal tackle according to the type of action that may be forthcoming. Some wrecks will hold only a few cod and may be loaded with porgies or sea bass, while others will hold only cod. I'll usually start out with a pair of codfish hooks and if action is slow, put on a smaller lower hook and grab a few bottom fish.

Keep the rig as simple as possible. The first hook is attached a foot above the sinker by means of a three-way swivel. Two feet above this one, a second hook is attached, also via a three-way swivel. If you find yourself hanging into the wreckage often, keep just a single hook about three feet off the bottom. Hook size can be anywhere from 5/0 to 7/0 and snelled on an eighteen inch, fifty pound leader. For the smaller bottom fish, a 1/0 Eagle Claw hook on a twelve inch leader can be attached a few inches above the sinker.

Skimmer clams are the most widely used baits, although not always the most effective one. When the perch are heavy, they will make short work of the soft skimmer clam. The good party boat skipper will always have on hand a supply of fresh conch. This leathery bait is virtually impossible to remove from the hook and is a fine codfish bait. If no conch is available, then you can fillet a small perch or sea bass and have another excellent cod bait that is difficult to remove from the hook.

If you're having trouble with bait, don't be afraid to go to a diamond jig. Get yourself a spot away from the bait fisherman and drop an eight ounce jig to the bottom. Reel in a few turns and then briskly lift and lower your rod tip. Sometimes this will turn the trick, and if there are any pollack or bluefish around, they'll find the jig in a hurry.

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SOUTH SHORE Fishing Report

MONTAUK

★ STRIPED BASS ★

Capt. Buddy Dorman of the **Viking Skipper II** reported that fishing the Montauk rips for striped bass has been good. The boat is sailing open for bass and blues and anglers are doing a good job on both with Ava diamond jigs. Anglers are going home smiling, some with bulging bags, with striped bass up to 37 lbs. and a good number in the 20 to 30 pound class. They are also taking slammer blues, but Bud asked us to remind fishermen that not all anglers are lucky enough to catch a striped bass.

Capt. Ron Gradinetti of the **Julie III** reported taking six striped bass up to 24 lbs. diamond jigging on the south side off of Ditch Plains on Thursday.

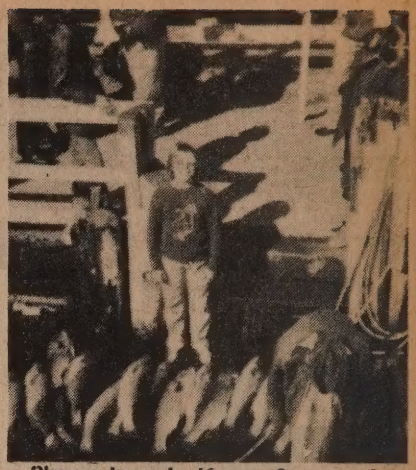
Henry Colombi of the **Star Island Yacht Club** reported that the bass fishing was very good during the week for both trollers and diamond jiggers, has been fair at night trolling big swimming plugs, but has been picky on the weekend due to the heavy boat traffic. On Friday Artie Jost and friends bailed 300 pounds of striped bass on diamond jigs around the Great Eastern area. Monday morning Capt. John Phillips of the "Captain John" took four bass and two bonito trolling by himself east of Great Eastern. He also had six blues.

Capt. Frank Maccaro of the charter boat **Free Spirit** called to say that he picked up three bass in the 20 to 25 lb. class trolling umbrella rigs at the Elbow on Sunday morning. More fish would have been taken, but the seas were very sloppy.

Capt. Art Munday of the charter boat **Darius II** was seen taking quite a few bass while trolling around Great Eastern late Sunday afternoon.

Although there was a considerable amount of striped bass being taken Saturday morning around Great Eastern, not all boats were catching well. The boat traffic was the worst this reporter has ever seen it, and uncooperating small boats affected the fishing of all and created some unbelievable traffic snarls. One of the boats that didn't let the traffic bother it was Capt. Paul Sundberg's **Montauk**. The captain was drifting through the traffic and the charter aboard was bailing striped bass and bluefish squidding with Ava diamond jigs.

Shown above are some of the fares with their catch of striped bass and bluefish taken on Ava diamond jigs aboard the Viking Skipper II at Montauk. The big open boat is diamond jigging for bass and blues in the rips off the Lighthouse so that open boat anglers can cash in on the good run of fall fish.



Shown here is Karen Caruso of Cloister, N.J., with her dad's catch of bass and blues aboard Capt. Phil Lewis' boat "Adios."

The high northeast winds Sunday morning kept most from bass fishing, but those few boats that hung around Great Eastern until the afternoon when the winds calmed did a good job on the fish. The private boat **Pepe** had five anglers aboard bailing fish on every drift squidding with diamond jigs. One bass in the 50 lb. class was held up for all to see.

★ BLUEFISH ★

Bluefish, bluefish everywhere ... the Submarine Buoy, Cartwright Grounds and on the south side off of Ditch Plains. The banner day was Sunday morning, when most of the boats fished off Ditch Plains to get out of the wind. Henry Colombi of the **Star Island Yacht Club** reported that virtually all of the boat going down there murdered big bluefish either trolling or diamond jigging. Bert Rockfields "Serenity" took 40 blues on the south side and the "Wee Mite" "Four of Diamonds" and the "Lone Gull" also loaded up on big choppers there. Many of the boats were breaking off tubes on their umbrella rigs when multiple bluefish attacked the rigs.

Capt. Frank Maccaro of the charterboat **Free Spirit** said that on Saturday he clobbered big bluefish at the Submarine Buoy on both the morning and afternoon trips. Frank said that on the afternoon trip a large shark was seen after it had chopped a hooked bluefish in half. Sunday's afternoon trip also provided plenty of bluefish action at the Submarine Buoy, and the perfect weather and calm seas was an added bonus. Frank anticipates the excellent fishing to continue well into November.

Capt. Artie Gerstmann of the charterboat **Bumble Bee II** reported murdering bluefish diamond jigging on the south side Sunday off of Ditch Plains. Sunday afternoon the captain took some big bluefish on diamond jigs just outside of the Great Eastern Buoy. Some bass were also mixed in with the blues.

On Monday morning we received an unconfirmed report of a 35 lb. bluefish taken at Montauk on Sunday on wire line. More details on this when they are available, if they exist.

Capt. Paul Forsberg of the **Viking Fishing Fleet** reported that the bluefishing at

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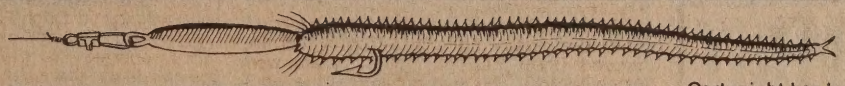

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Cartwright has been fantastic during the day with the **Viking Starlite** and at night on the **Viking Starship**. The fish are all monsters in the 18 to 20 lb. class, and the captain said that this looks like the grand finale before the bluefishng ends, probably in another two weeks.

Capt. Ron Grandinetti of the **Julie III** called to say that on Wednesday three members of the Salt Waters Anglers of Bergen County took 35 bluefish up to 14 lbs. diamond jigging. On Thursday, Ron had a party of five led by Lewis Medot and they caught 52 bluefish up to 15 lbs. and six striped bass up to 24 lbs. diamond jigging on the south side off of Ditch Plains.

★ BLACKFISH ★

Capt. Ron Grandinetti of the charterboat **Julie III** had a charter of four members from the Salt Water Anglers of Bergen County aboard on Tuesday that took over 100 blackfish at outer Shagwong. On Wednesday, three members of the same club were aboard and took over 80 blackfish, nine of which were between 8¾ and 10¾ lbs. fishing off of Culloden Point.

Capt. Richard Rade of the open boat **Marlin IV** reported that some big blackfish are starting to mix with the catches of porgies off Block Island.

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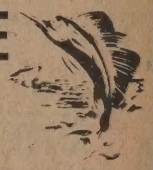

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John Bowers, Jr caught these 11 bass to 38 lbs., weakfish to 12 lbs., blues and bonito fishing the Southside with Ava-67 diamond jigs aboard Capt. Paul Sunberg's "Montauk."

★ CODFISH ★

Capt. Paul Forsberg of the **Viking Starship** reported that dogfish have taken over Coxes Ledge and the Block Island Grounds, but the super ship has been doing very good with the codfishing on wrecks. Fishing a wreck off Shinnecock on Saturday, Ken McShea of Hurleyville, New York took the pool with a 56 lb. cod. Fishing was good, so Paul returned to the same wreck on Sunday but found big blue sharks eating everything in the area. So he fished another wreck which also produced good cod action. Paul said he will now be wreck fishing everyday until the inshore run of cod perks up off Block Island.

★ PORGIES ★

Capt. Richard Rade of the **Marlin IV** reported that the porgy fishing is still very good off Block Island. Anglers aboard are averaging between 35 and 40 fish a man, and the high hook on Sunday was 75 fish. The captain said he expects the porgy fishing to continue for another weeks until the codfish move inshore.

★ OFFSHORE ★

Capt. Frank of the charterboat **Free Spirit** called to say that he made his last offshore trip of the year on Wednesday. Four big blue sharks ranging from 250 to 300 lbs. were taken in the butterfish hole, where the water is still warm and loaded with big sharks. Three of the sharks taken were tagged and released.

★ SURF FISHING ★

Johnny Kronuch, Jr. of **Johnny's Tackle** reported that the surf fishing has been erratic with no consistency. An occasional bass was taken during the week, but fishing completely died on the weekend. The bluefish just aren't coming in close enough for the casters. On Thursday, Nick Weiss of Queens fished under the light during incoming water and took a big cow of 42 lbs. 2 oz. On another night during the week Frank McGowan took a 40 lb. bass on outgoing water at North Bar on a bottle plug.

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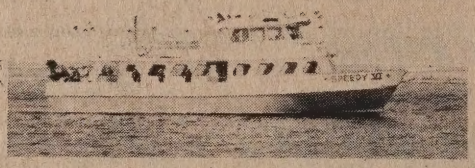

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SHINNECOCK

Capt. Clark Bellows, Sr., of the **Captain Clark Fleet** called to say that he has been fishing offshore on the Shinnecock artificial fishing reef and the Panther wreck now that we have had some decent weather. The fishing has been very good for big sea bass 2 to 4 lbs., blackfish in the 2-5 lb. class and jumbo porgies. On the weekend, anglers were averaging 10 to 20 fish per man. Dave Dorf of Long Beach was high hook on Saturday with 14 blackfish and 13 sea bass. On Sunday the first cod of the season, a 9 pounder, was taken on the artificial fishing reef. The captain said that Peconic Bay has been fairly slow for blackfish, but the mild weather should see this fishing perk up.

HAMPTON BAYS

Jimmy at **Corr's Fishing Station** called to say that the flounder fishing is still improving in Shinnecock Bay with catches ranging up to 75 fish taken this past week. Poor midday tides during the week kept most of the action limited to early in the morning or late in the afternoon. Jim said that virtually no fish are being taken around low tide. Look for good fishing this coming week due to the excellent tide conditions. The action has been from the Coast Guard Station to the Greenlawn and off Cormorant Point. Use blood worms or sand worms with corn or cracked mussels for chum.

MORICHES BAY

Larry at **L&M Marine** called to say that this week he has seen some of the nicest sized flounders ever taken in Moriches Bay. About half of the catches coming in are flounder over 2 lbs. But you had to fish the tides. Best action was near the top of the flood tide, with few fish being taken when the water is low. Those using sand worms for bait and stirring up the bottom have been doing a good job around Buoy 54. Ron Raynor fished by himself and took 30 flounder, and Tom Leitch had 35 flounder fishing solo on the weekend. Half of both catches were fish over 2 lbs.

Romona of the **Silly Lily Fishing Station** called to say that fishing had been very slow during the week due to the weather and the poor tides. But those that hung around Sunday afternoon did a real number on the fish. Joe Obermeier and his two sons Joey and Mike had only about a half dozen flounder for a day's fishing until the tide changed to incoming in the afternoon. Then they bailed another 50 flounder in a short period of time using blood worms, sand worms and clams for bait without the aid of chum. The hotspot was in the deep hole between buoys 42 and 43.

Frank of **Angler's Den South** reported that flounder fishing has been good on both moving tides in the deeper water around buoys 42, 43 and 44. During the week anglers were taking good catches of bluefish trolling white umbrella rigs right outside the inlet, but this action died on the weekend. Frank said that the shop is having a hunting contest for the duck season. For a $1 entry fee, the largest Mallard brought in will be mounted free by J&J Taxidermy and the hunter will also receive a nice trophy.

Bill at **East Moriches Bait and Tackle** said that George Frey and Lenny Cumo trolled red and white tubed umbrella rigs in 40 feet of water east of the Inlet on Thursday. They bagged 30 big bluefish and 5 bonito. Not much action, however, on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Sal Sanfilippo took 4, 12 lb. bonito trolling wire line in 55 feet of water off the Jones Beach tower. Sal said he had to stop fishing when he lost his rig and ran out of leaders. Flounder fishing has been on and off with the average boat taking from 12 to 18 nice fish and a few sharpies bagging as many

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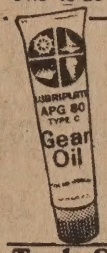
16-ft.	10'x20'	34.00
17-ft. to 18-ft.	12'x22'	44.88
32-ft. to 36-ft.	20'x40'	136.00



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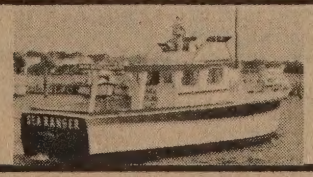

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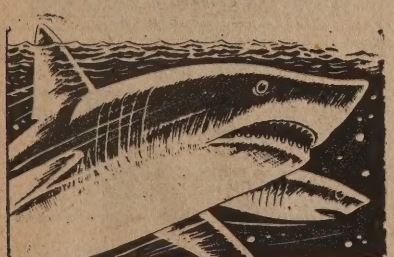

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as 50 flounder. The hotspot has been on the southwest side of the Westhampton Bridge, but fish are also being taken around buoys 42, 43, and 44. Bill said that some nice blue claw crabs are still being taken around buoy 42.

MASTIC BEACH

Stiriz's Fishing Station reports flounders at Buoy 17 on worms and mussel chum plus crabs at 21 and 22. On the outside are weaks, blues and bonito in 25 to 55 feet of water trolled on 300 feet of wire with umbrellas.

BAY SHORE

Smokey's Bait and Tackle reports some flounder on the Heckscher flats on worms. West channel and east of the Moses Bridge are areas also producing. Blacks on the Kismet reef on fiddlers and greens on the slack. A few bass in the teens being chummed in the bay. Bluefish galore off Gilgo in 55 feet of water 4-5 miles off the beach on umbrellas and red tubes and on the new Commanche tube jig. There are still albie and bonito on umbrellas and jigs in the same area. Some stripers and weakfish also being trolled and jigged between the Fire Island lighthouse and Kismet. Surf casters have been scoring in this area on plugs while boaters have also been taking them on live eels. A gillnetter working the outer bar had a good catch of fish in the 20s and 40s.

CAPTREE

Capt. Speedy Hubert of the **Speedy VI** reported that the bluefishing is still very good. The boat has been doing a good job during the day jigging with Ava diamond jigs, and the fish range in size anywhere from 3 to 15 lb. gorillas. On Friday, the Captain located a school right outside the inlet and the anglers aboard diamond jigged over 400

Mike Forgacz and Georges Kowaliwskyi of queens with their catch of 21 bluefish from 8-12 lbs. taken aboard the "Speedy VI" on a night trip. Subscriber Club Photo.

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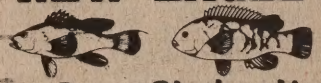
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blues. For some reason Saturday's action was not too good, although those trolling did a good job on the fish. Sunday was very good jigging off Tobay Beach. The captain said that he has stopped night bluefishing, but in the near future he will start night whiting fishing on Friday and Saturday nights from 7 to 12 midnight. Flounder fishing has been good and is much better than last year's run of fish. Anglers are taking up to 15 fish each fishing off Heckscher and in Range channel.

Capt Neil Delanoy of the charterboat **Lady Ann** reported that the night bluefishing is still good. There are a lot of fish over the wrecks now but you can find schools of blues inshore on the open bottom and taken them diamond jigging. On Friday 18 men took almost 100 bluefish ranging from 10 to 18 lbs. On Saturday and Sunday the charterboat was bottom fishing on the ocean reef with excellent results. Catch for the two days was well over 1,000 fish, a mixed bag of sea bass, blackfish and big porgies. Anglers are fishing with a hi-lo rig, bottom hook baited with green crabs for blackfish and the top hook with skimmer clam for sea bass and porgies. The pool fish on Sunday was an 8 lb. 3 oz. blackfish weighed in at the boat basin.

BABYLON

Bill at **Babylon Fishing Station** reported super bluefishing in 40 feet of water off Gilgo on diamond jigs. He saw a lot of fish brough in at his dock. A lot of flounders being caught also, with the area southeast of the head buoy

in 3-4 feet of water on bloodworms, being one of the best spots. One regular customer brought back 25 on Sunday between 1 and 13 1-3/4. Good quantities of fish just 10 minutes from the dock with lots of eels mixed in. Blackfish at the Kismet Reef and at the bridges remains good on fiddlers and greens.

Augie's Bait and Tackle tells of super bluefishing, with weaks, bonito and albies mixed in in 35 to 40 feet of water on diamond jigs, small umbrellas or single tubes. The fish that are on the bottom are the ones being caught as the fish on top and intermediate levels won't hit. You've got to use a long shot of wire plus a drail. Very good showing of flounder with some sharpies getting 50 to 60 fish. Chumming is important and fish are good sized. Heckscher is producing the bigger fish while areas for quantity are off Good Sam Hospital, the Babylon flats and off Massapequa. The fish are really spread out, so try the State Channel coves also with worm and clam. Blackfishing has dropped a little this week, probably due to when the slack tides occurred. The BTC flounder contest was taken by Frank Lofasso with a 2 lb. 1 oz. flattie. One angler did a big job on weakfish around the Jones area. Lots of big dogfish outside.

LINDENHURST

Charlie's Bait and Tackle reports super bluefish action in 30 to 60 feet of water with jigs on the bottom, fish 8 to 15 lbs. Flounders very good at the Copiague Hole, the Sore Thumb, Amityville Cut and off Good Sam Hospital. Blacks at the outside reef on fiddlers and greens, along with humpback porgies and sea bass on clam along with loads of doggies. Weaks off Gilgo by anchoring and using squid on the bottom. The **Speedy VI** scored with jumbo blacks to 8 lbs. on the outside reef. Check with Al, the mate for the best rigging.

OAK BEACH

The Store reports blues outside the Fire Island inlet in 30 to 60 feet of water on umbrellas or falling to diamond jigs. Flounders at the Sore Thumb and the coves just to the west on blood and sand worms.

COPIAGUE

Jonas' Bait and Tackle reports flounders good at Amityville Cut, Squaw Island, and the State Channel Coves up to 2 lbs. A lot of blues from the beaches and at around the 60 foot mark on diamond jigs. Jonas weighed in a 15 lb., 2 oz. alligator and two customers out in a boat came in with 48 blues. Blacks at the reef and bridges on fiddlers and greens. A few bass at Democratic Point on eels with a 52 pounder reportedly caught in that area on an eel.

Bait and Tackle Unlimited reports that flounder fishing is excellent with fish up 2½ lbs. showing everywhere even off Tanner Park. Catches range between 30 and 60 flatties in the State Channel between East Fox Creek and the Babylon Cut, and also at the Copiague Hole with 65 percent keepers. Exceptionally large catches are being taken on corn rigs with blood worms. Emerson Jackson took a bushel of sea bass along with some ling out of Jones Inlet. Bluefish are still running 3-5 miles offshore in 60 to 70 feet of water with a fish of 15 lbs. being common. Bass between 20 and 30 lbs. are being taken at the Sore Thumb and Tobay Beach. Blackfishing is still good at the bridges, wrecks and reefs on fiddlers and green crabs.

AMITYVILLE

George Combs Bait and Tackle reports flounder good at West Island, Squaw Island and Amityville Cut, fish up to 2 lbs., with best results on blood worms and mussel chum. Blacks very good at the bridge and outer reef on green crabs, fish up to 10 lbs. Blues just outside Fire Island inlet up to 16 lbs. on umbrellas and jigs, from 25 to 50 feet of water.

SEAFORD

Captain Eddie's Fishing Station tells us the blackfishing slowed this past week but that flounders are a good bet as evidenced by the Ryan family of Third Ave., Brooklyn. The father and two sons fished the Squaw Island area and filled a five gallon bucket with very large flounder on bloodworms. Four Corners on the ebb is also producing. A lot of very small flounder are around and should be returned, as we all know. They are a good sign of flounder seasons to come.

BELLMORE

Merrick Marine Supplies reports bluefishing excellent off Gilgo in 40 to 80 feet of water along with a lot of doggies on umbrellas fished deep or on jigs. Flounders excellent throughout the bays on worms and clam, with Merrick Point and Rowboat Alley being notable. Blacks at the second Wantagh and the Meadowbrook Bridges on fiddlers and greens. Weakfish are about gone. Small bass for the jetty jockeys on small swimming plugs at the west end jetty.

MERRICK

Jimmy and Nick's Fishing Station reports very good flounder on Sunday with best action being at the third pole off Nick's Texaco sign. Lillian Wicks weighed in a 3 lb. 2 oz. flounder on Sunday taken on worms in that general vicinity. Merrick Point was the hotspot on Saturday. Generally fish are from ½ to 1 lb., with a lot of midgets thrown in. Blues on the outside are super and were off the pink hotel Saturday in 30 to 50 feet of water, while Sunday fish were from the Jones Beach tower to Gilgo in 40 to 50 feet of water. Fish generally ran 5 to 12 lbs. and best results were 300 feet of wire with a six ounce drail to drag these alligators off the bottom. Green and white tubes are the hot colors.

BALDWIN

Arthur Street Fishing Station tells us that Ed Rimish hung a 30 lb. striper on a Lupo Baby Bunker Spoon right at the tip of the west end jetty this Monday morning. The weekend saw plenty of flounder in Middle and Baldwin Bay on worm and clam, outgoing tide best. Large blues in 40 feet of water on umbrellas and A27 jigs fished deep.

N.Y. BIGHT Fishing Report

FREEPORT

Ronnie at **Sea Isle Sports** reports all the bluefish you wanted between the tower and Gilgo all along the beach on umbrellas and jigs from 30 to 60 feet of water. Fish are running from 3 to 6 lbs. Flounders very good on worms in Swift and Long Creek. Chumming brings the best results.

Capt. Joe Long on the **Nite Owl** had a bonanza of bluefish and sea bass on his pet offshore grounds on Saturday. This was on bait and on jigs. He had Joe Masone and party out on Sunday where they took 400 lbs. of blues plus some sea bass and five cod up to 30 lbs. On Friday, 200 lbs. of blues and six sea bass in the 6 lb. range were boated for Ed Zoder and party from Massapequa. Plenty of doggies everywhere.

Charter boat **Sea Hawk** called to say that on Saturday Charles Redanz and party fished at the J.I. Buoy area where they trolled up 12 blues in the morning and 4 in the afternoon on umbrellas. On Sunday, the charter of Charles Bramal and party trolled off Gilgo in 30 to 50 feet of water, decking 25 blues up to 13 lbs. Four umbrella rigs were ripped off each one with four fish on at the same time right at the boat. Double and triple headers were common.

The **Captain Al** reports good bluefishing all week and weekend long with a few bonito mixed in, fish from 4 to 14 lbs. On Saturday, they fishe the Three Sisters and also jigged at the Coal Barge. Chumming is impossible due to the huge amount of dogfish. Al is now switching over to his famous Cow Country trips, sailing at 6:00 a.m. His first trip of the season will be Friday or Saturday, so be sure to call him first to find out the sailing schedule.

The Starstream II reports excellent sea bass, porgies and blackfishing in 50 to 95 feet of water with truly strong catches being made by nearly everyone on the boat. On Saturday, they also had 10 jumbo bluefish, while on Sunday a 12 lb. cod was also decked. Quantities of fish are excellent and needless

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to say, the variety is there. Blacks are going to 7 lbs., sea bass to 4 lbs. and porgies to 4 lbs.

The **Aloma II** had 18 passengers on Saturday and they took a load of flounder fishing blood worms and clam in the local creeks and channels. One customer had 35 keepers.

Charterboat **Bluefin II** called to say that on Sunday both the Bluefin II and the Bluefin had very good bluefish on jigs. Baiting was impossible due to the huge numbers of doggies, roughly 10 dogs for every blue. Even so, the II had 50 blues up to 8 lbs. plus a few bonito to 8 lbs. The Hudson Bay Fishing Club jigged blues on the I within 4 miles of the beach to the south and southeast.

POINT LOOKOUT

Charterboat **Marie III** called to tell us that on Saturday they loaded up on blackfish at some local wrecks then trolled and jigged bluefish in about 40 feet of water outside of Jones Inlet along with the ever-present dogfish and a few bonito. On Sunday they had to run to the east to Tobay where jigs and wire line accounted for a box full of blues from 6 to 14 lbs.

Frank at **Doxee Sea Clam** reports very good blackfishing at the stone barge on green crabs and fiddlers. Blues and weaks being trolled in 30 to 60 feet of water. Bass being chummed on bellies at the bridges and in the creeks and decent flounder fishing on worms and clam in the local creeks.

Ed's Fishing Station reports that on Saturday and Sunday he sent his boats to the flats for flounder action and a lot of them came back with catches ranging from 75 to 100 fish up to 1 lb., taken on worms during the incoming tide. Blackfish action is still good at the bridges and jetties with quite a few fish in the two pound class taking fiddlers and greens. Offshore, bluefish from 8 to 10 lbs. are taken south of Cholera on trolled umbrellas and tubes. It was heard through the grapevine from a reliable source that a few lunker bass up to 31 lbs. are being taken at the Meadowbrook Bridge.

ISLAND PARK

Captain Clem of the **Commodore** told us of great flounder fishing Saturday and Sunday. Regular customer Tom Rupp had 40 keepers Saturday. Saturday saw 15 fares with 352 keepers, while on Sunday 15 men had 206 keepers. On Sunday, Frank Herskowitz of Queens had 38 flatties to 2½ lbs. Lots of small fish are being caught and thrown back. This is a good sign that we'll have continuing good flounder fishing. Worm and clam are the baits. Clem has been fishing buoy 9 in Reynolds Channel and Hog channel and 16 and 18 in Reynolds. Good blackfishing at the bridge and off the Sea Plane Base on fiddlers and green crabs.

Beckmann's Tackle reports that flounder fishing was fantastic on Friday, Saturday and Sunday with catches of 150 flounder being taken. The only problem was that 60 to 70 percent of these flounder were throwbacks. The ones that were kept ran up to 1½ lbs. The fishing was being done from the Long Beach Bridge, west. Blackfishing is still good at the bridges, piers and rock jetties. Fiddlers and green crabs are producing these fish to 4 lbs.

ATLANTIC BEACH

Capt. Ron Lepper called to say he got his first bass of the fall on Sunday, a 30 pounder taken on a Lupo Baby Bunker Spoon. Off the local beaches, big blues and bonito are being trolled from Fire Island to Atlantic Beach. On Sunday, the Gilgo area was hot with mixed

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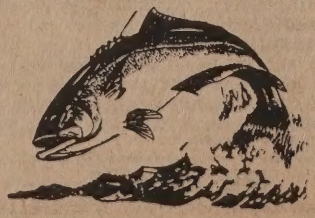

Members of the Fireside Inn Fishing Club of Mt. Vernon are shown with part of their catch of bluefish and bonito caught aboard the charterboat "Sea Bee." The party was made up of Jack Purpura, Willie Vacako, Phil Gilbert, and Jack Logan.

blues from 4 to 20 lbs. and bonito from 4 to 7 lbs. Spoons or umbrellas are the way to go. Ronnie also had a load of blues and bonito on Sunday. He says that while the fleet was way offshore, he worked inshore with about 150 feet of wire in 25 feet of water between the Lido Beach hotel and the Atlantic Beach hotel.

Henning's Fishing Station reports super bluefishing with some bonito Saturday and Sunday for wire liners from the pink hotel to Fire Island Inlet. Capt. Ron Lepper of the **Kim** trolled up a 30 lb. bass on a Lupo Baby Bunker spoon. Sy heard of a 40 pounder taken by someone on the CB locally, but no details. Flounders at Duck Point and the Cedarhurst Yacht Club in the one pound class on worms. Blacks at the rocks and bridges on crabs. Weakfish in someone's net (heard over the CB). So they have to be still around the Atlantic Beach area somewhere.

JAMAICA BAY

Cross Bay Bait and Tackle reports blackfish being taken in Jamaica Bay and at the bridges such as Marine Parkway Bridge and at Beach Channel Drive. Fish are running up to 2 lbs. and are taking fiddlers. Flounders are in strong at Silver Hole up to 1½ lbs. taking sandworms. Lafayettes are still around in good numbers. Schoolie bass are being taken at the North Channel bridge on sand worms at night.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

Captain Tom on the **Pilot II** reports super-great blackfishing with this past week's being the best all year, averaging 50 to 60 fish per man for experienced blackfishermen and 15 to 20 per man for the average blackfisherman. An average of 35 men per day have been lining the boat's rails. Bill Anderson had 65 blacks on Sunday and full buckets are common. Fish are in the 2 to 4 lb. category. Tom is working the Jersey Coast and greens are working best with fiddlers next. The storm apparently brought in cold water which gave things a real shot in the arm.

The **Helen H** over the weekend fished Sea Bright and 17 Fathoms for good catches of blackfish from 2 to 6 lbs. with some good sea bass mixed in. The boat is now going into the shipyard for a week or so, so it would be a good idea to call before making your plans.

The Eagle reports fair day and night fishing at 17 fathoms and Sea Bright. Please note that they are fishing Saturday nights only on the ling and whiting.

Big Mohawk II has been making the long run for bluefish to Manasquan Ridge but it has been worth it as his people have been bagging up on jumbo blues on bait and chum. Lots of doggies on the bottom which would indicate an early cod season in the offing. Capt. Tony still has some choice codfishing dates open.

The Flamingo III reports absolutely super-fantastic bluefishing Friday, Saturday and Sunday off the Asbury area of Jersey on jigs. Fish are all medium to large with a 19 pounder taking Sunday's pool. Second place was just a few ounces lighter. A lot of gorilla blues around. With 33 fares on Sunday, 20 fish were on at once at one point during the day. On Saturday, a 30 lb. striper was a bonus catch and took the pool as well. Walter says that the best fishing of the year is right now. The Tin Can is also producing a lot of small bass for trollers this past week.

Capt. Rocky of the super cruiser **Tampa VI** tells us that his fares had a good cod trip on Saturday on the offshore wrecks, fish going up to 45 lbs. Sunday's tile fish trip also saw good results with a few hundred tile fish lining the decks at day's end. Some had up to 15 fish. Rocky has another cod wreck trip this Saturday and another tilefish trip this

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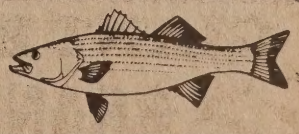

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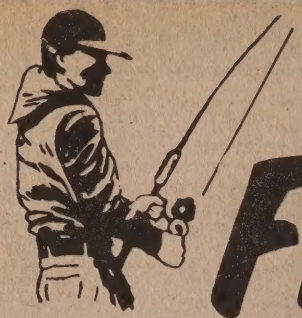

The Long Island FISHERMAN

-FIRST ANNUAL- FISHING CONTEST!

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Contest Rules & Regulations

1. DATES--The Contest will begin at midnight on May 1st and end at midnight on October 31st, 1977. Fish must be caught during this time frame and be confirmed as a new World Record by the International Gamefish Association (I.G.F.A.) no later than February 1st, 1978.

2. ENTRY FEE--There is no entry fee to participate in the Contest. The only requirement is that you MUST have been a subscriber of The Long Island Fisherman for at least 30 DAYS before the date that a fish was caught. Immediate members of a subscriber's family are also eligible if they are living together in the same household. Example: Mother, father, brother, sister, daughter, son.

3. ELIGIBLE SPECIES--The Contest has ten (10) eligible species: five inshore and five offshore. They are:

Inshore--	Offshore--
FLUKE	BLUE SHARK
WEAKFISH	MAKO SHARK
STRIPED BASS	WHITE SHARK
BLUEFISH	SWORDFISH
BLACKFISH	WHITE MARLIN

4. RULES--The winner of the Contest will be determined by fish caught by subscribers of The Long Island Fisherman that are recognized as new World Records by the I.G.F.A. The following rules will apply:
   a. Fish must be one of the ten eligible species.
   b. Catch must be made sometime between midnight May 1st and midnight October 31st, 1977.
   c. Fish must be taken in Long Island Waters.
   d. All catches must be made under the rules and regulations set up by the I.G.F.A. These rules and regulations will be printed in the May 5th issue of The Long Island Fisherman, and will be available after that date for any angler sending in a self-addressed envelope to The Fisherman.
   e. The catch must be CONFIRMED as a new World Record by the I.G.F.A. by February 1, 1978.
   f. New records can be for any of the I.G.F.A. line classes: 6-lb., 12-lb., 20-lb., 30-lb. 50-lb., 80-lb., 130-lb., or All Tackle, for both Men and Women.

5. WEIGH-STATIONS--Any of the Long Island Fisherman Official Weigh-in Stations may be used for a PRELIMINARY weigh-in of a possible world

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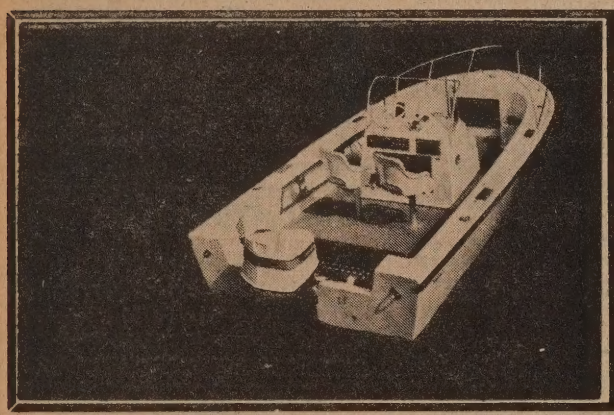

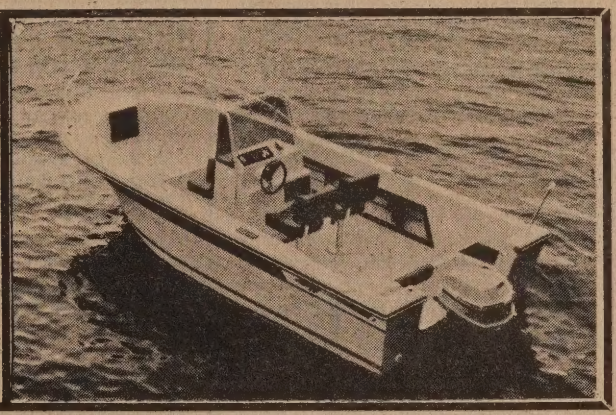

record fish. If it appears that the fish is a possible record, it must then be OFFICIALLY weighed in at STARFISH MARINE in East Islip, New York. After the Official Weigh-In Starfish Marine will prepare the necessary record applications that must be sent to the I.G.F.A. It is the anglers responsibility to transport his catch to and from Starfish Marine.

6. CURRENT RECORDS--For the convenience of eligible anglers, the current recognized records by the I.G.F.A. will be published in the May 5th issue of The Long Island Fisherman. Periodic updates of new records set while the contest is in progress will also be published in the pages of The Fisherman.

7. TIES--In the event that more than one subscriber sets a new World Record, the winner will be decided by the following criteria:
   a. The angler setting the most I.G.F.A. records during the contest will be the winner.
   b. In the event that no angler sets more than one record, but two or more anglers set a single record, the following point system will be utilized to place the winners:
      1. One point will be scored for each percentage point that the new record beat the previously held record, based on weight. Example: If the new record is 25 lbs. and the old record was 20 lbs., the new record is 25% more weight. Score 25 points.
      2. One point will also be scored for every year that prior record existed. Example: If the old record was set in May 1967 and the new record is set in 1977, score 10 points.

8. PRIZES--The Grand Prize will be the winners choice of a 1978 Grady White Center Console or a Mako 20, which will be awarded by Starfish Marine. If more than one new I.G.F.A. approved World Record is set, there will be a consolation prize for the 2nd highest point fish of $500, 3rd highest $250 and $50 for each additional record.

9. JUDGES--The decision of the judges will be final.

10. Employees of Starfish Marine or The Long Island Fisherman and their immediate family members are prohibited from participating in the Contest. Anglers that have had an article published in The Fisherman within the past three years are also ineligible.

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EDITORIAL: L.I. Sound Bridge *(Continued from page 4.)*

William C. Richards (R.-7th District, Incumbent), Judy Slotnick (D.-7th District, Candidate), John Finnerty (R.-11th District, Candidate), Richard Lambert (D.-11th District, Incumbent).

Those opposed to the bridge are: William Haugaard (R.-Supervisor-Riverhead, Candidate), Allen Smith (D.-Supervisor-Riverhead, Incumbent), Mildred Steinberg (D.-5th District, Incumbent). Others oppose the plan; we know that from past go-rounds with this thing, but they have not taken a position this time. Not yet anyway, and in this era of changing political winds, we'll have to wait and see if a candidate or official takes a definite stand before we can applaud them.

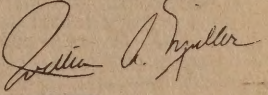
Some candidates have avoided taking a position. They exercise the belief that if they straddle the fence, no one will get angry and whatever the outcome, they can live with it politically. To our way of thinking, fence-sitters are worse than those who have landed on the wrong side of the fence. At least they have shown their colors and deserve respect for that.

Lately, there has also been some talk about constructing a deep water port on Long Island. We agree with Smith, Haugaard, Jane Devine (D.-17th District, Candidate), Elaine Adler (D.-16th District, Incumbent), that the dredging required for such a port would be a nuisance and would most likely have detrimental effects on tourism and the shellfish industry. In favor of the idea were Burland and Sal Nicosia (R.-3rd District, Candidate).

This would be a good time to register your feelings about the bridge. It isn't necessary to write a long letter. A simple statement will do. You can join forces with some pretty big names against the bridge, including Governor Hugh Carey and Governor Ella Grasso of Connecticut.

Many folks think that as long as both Governors are against the idea, that the bridges will not be built. I guess that this is sound thinking—excuse the pun. But Governors do not remain Governors forever! Will the bridge be built during the term of office of the next Governor? Will commercial pressure force these Governors to change their positions? Let's sit down and write a few letters so that our locally elected officials know that we want the character of Long Island to stay the way it is and so that Governor Carey knows that his position has the support of the people.

Hasn't our fishing been bad enough lately? Do we need to destroy more wetlands with a bridge so that there'll be even less productivity? Write today!



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Sunday. See ad for sailing schedule. After these trips, he will be resuming his local sailings.

STATEN ISLAND

Santo's Sport Shop reports that boat fishermen are taking small bass at the 21 Can, the VZ bridge and at the bridge tower. 70 percent of these fish are throwbacks and the other 30 percent are running up to 18 inches. Bigger bass are being taken between West Bank and Roamer Shoal at the Stake area. Fishing is a slow pick, the fish running from 10 to 20 lbs. and are being taken on gorilla rigs and spoons. Bluefishing has slowed down considerably. Flounder are being taken from the surf from the VZ Bridge to Tottenville. These fish are averaging one-half to 3/4 lbs. and are hitting worms. Lafayettes are still in the area. Ft. Wadsworth to Snug Harbor and Jersey Street are producing flounder and some small stripers on worms.

NORTH SHORE Fishing Report

GREENPORT

Capt. George Porter of the **Brand X** reports good fall bluefishing action at Pigeon Rip, Plum Gut and the Race, with stripers mixed in at the Gut.

A.P. White Bait Shop reported lots of blues taken last week in Plum Gut, the east side of Gardiner's Island and the Race. The blackfishing was best off Orient Pt., and the north side of Plum Island. The bass tournament of this past weekend saw some very nice fish weighed in.

The party boat **Brand X** had great bluefishing all of last week. The fish are there and there's plenty of room at the rail.

SOUTHOLD

Port of Egypt Fishing Station reports that fishing was off a little but all in all, it was a good weekend. Blackfishing was good at the Lighthouse in the morning and then switched over to Mulford Point towards afternoon with almost everyone taking good catches of fish. The Brickyards and the Greenlawns are producing blackfish averaging 3 lbs. on crabs. Flounder fishing has been good in the areas such as Petty's bight, Long Beach, Beixedon, Goose Creek and Pipe's Neck Cove. The Long Beach area is producing nice sized fish but not many of them. The Rosenbergs fished Petty's bight and totaled 60 fat flounder for the day. The flounder are taking worms and are running up to 1¼.

AQUEBOGUE

Warren's Tackle Center reports flounder being taken at buoys 8 and 9 up to a pound on worms. Blackfish can be caught in the rocky areas in the Sound from 3 to 5 lbs. on fiddlers and green crabs. Bass up to 23 lbs. and blues to 19 lbs. are being plugged off the surf in the area on low water in both morning and evening.

ROCKY POINT

Rocky Point Fishing Stop reports big bluefish in the area of Wildwood State Park. Abdul Isahack fished this area and took fish up to 16 lbs. 8 oz. on bunker. The dropoff at buoy 11 produced bluefish up to 15½ lbs. for

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John LaVelle and friend. Tom Brady took his share of bluefish fishing Herod's Point with pieces of eel. Blackfish are being taken along the beaches from 3 to 4 lbs. Bass activity has been on and off at Wading River and Herod's Point. When fish are taken they are hitting eels and plugs and are ranging from 20 to 30 lbs.

SELDEN

Big Al at **Tackle Shack** reports flounder to 1½ lbs. on sandworms at Mt. Sinai Bay area. Blackfish starting strong in Miller Place and other rocky shore areas on green crabs. This week's Tackle Shack Hall of Famers: Tim of the Withy Wind with 3 bluefish of 21 lbs. 4 oz., 21 lbs. 3 oz. and 21 lbs. on coat hangers at the South Moriches Bay Whistler buoy. Lenny the Phantom had 43 blues to 19 lbs. in 2 hours and 40 minutes on umbrellas in 60 feet of water. Jerry Bolton caught a 6 lb. 13 oz. eel which was 41½ inches long, on a live snapper in Shinnecock Inlet. It is well-known that big eels are good to smoke but you'll find they are very hard to light. They also dirty your collar. Jim Holman, Jr., took a 31 lb. 9 oz. striped bass on a bucktail in Plum Gut. Tony (the Godfather) Agosto boated 68 flounder, all over 1¼ lbs. on sand worms at Orient Point, fishing out of the Port of Egypt Orient station. Last but not least George Burkoski took a 47 lb. 8 oz. tuna on Tuesday in 115 feet of water south of Moriches Inlet at the fingers, on feathers.

The Angler's Den reported bluefish from 11 to 20 lbs. were taken last week at 11B, Middle Ground and Crane's Neck. The same areas also produced a few weakfish up to 10 lbs. Blackfishing and flounder fishing is good in the same general areas. Successful anglers of last week include Ray Kline, 8 lbs. 5 oz. blackfish; Jim Holman, Jr., 31 lbs. 9 oz. bass at Montauk; Jimmy Haynes, 13 lb. 12 oz. bluefish; John O'Laughlin, 16 lbs. 10 oz. bluefish; Steve Bradley, 14 lbs. 10 oz. bluefish.

MT. SINAI HARBOR

Ralph's Fishing Station reports that bluefishing has been fairly good outside the harbor between buoy 11 and the Harbor. Fish up to 14 lbs. are being taken on umbrellas and jigs. Blackfishing is doing good in the rocky areas with fish taking green crabs. A few porgies can still be found in this area. Inside the harbor flounder to 1¼ lbs. are taking worms.

PORT JEFFERSON

Caraftis Fishing Station reported a lot of

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To place an ad in *The Long Island Fisherman's* classified ad section, send in copy for the ad exactly as you wish it to read, along with your check or money order for the full amount. Rates for non-subscribers are 25 cents per word, 30 word ($7.50) minimum. Subscribers of *The Fisherman* receive a discount if they include the serial number off their *Subscriber's Club Card* with the order. Classified rates for subscribers are: 20 cents per word, 30 word ($6.00) minimum. Discounts for extended runs: 12 times, 5%; 35 times, 10%; and 50 times, 15%. To run a photograph with the ad, add $13.95.

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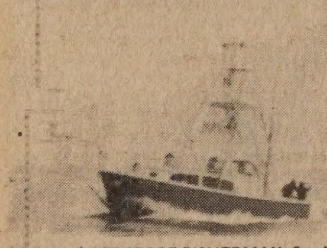

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big blues taken on Diamond jigs in about 90' of water around 11B. Trollers working the same area got some 8 to 10 lb. bluefish. Blackfish are in close to the Bell Buoy with slack tide the best time. Small flounder about the size of a man's hand, were taken throughout the local area. Bass reports were scarce.

KINGS PARK

Bob at **Mae's Way Fishing Station** reports that nice catches of blues, blackfish and flounder were taken over this pretty weekend. On Saturday Danny Wood of Smithtown caught blues to 11 lbs. 5 oz. on diamond jigs off the Port Jeff Shoals. Also on Saturday, Al McLean of Smithtown took his son, Brian out for some trolling off Crabmeadow. Highlights of the trip was 12 year old Brian's double-header bluefish of 10 lbs. and 10 lbs. 10 oz. taken on a spreader rig. Sunday Mike Andriaccio caught 12 blackfish to 4¼ lbs. on fiddlers off Eaton's Neck. Also on Sunday, Bill Olsen caught six blackfish to 5 lbs. on green crabs at the Lilco offshore unloading dock.

NORTHPORT

Fred at **Chain Locker** tells us that the blues have left the harbor but some are at 11B on chunk bunker or trolled on wire and umbrellas. Blackfish on the rocks at the east side of Eaton's Neck and at 11B on green crabs and clam, fish 3 to 5 lbs. Also blackfish report from the surf at Makamah Beach. Very little bass news except for some schoolies being trolled on worms and trolled on wire at night with plugs and also in the early morning hours off Marshal Field's estate. Flounder action is good at both Duck Island Harbor and off Centerport beach, fish up to 1½ lbs.

owman's Sporting Goods reported some very good bluefishing about one half mile south of Buoy 11B in 40 to 45 feet of water. Surf fishermen are catching small flounder near beach Street in the harbor. Snapper blues were in the waters around the Lilco plant last week. One customer caught 80 snappers in one day with the majority weighing over one pound. For those wishing to try this spot, Tom recommended parking at Crab Meadow Beach and then walking the half mile to the plant.

HUNTINGTON

George Valentine of **Four Winds Tackle** reports excellent flounder fishing in all the harbors. Some people are chumming and fish to 1½ lbs. are taking worms and crabs. Blackfishing at 11B is good with fish from 1 to 3 lbs. and up to 7 being taken. Andy Hoffman took a blackfish of 7 lbs. 4 oz. fishing 11B with green crabs. Bluefishing is fantastic at buoy 15 off Diamond Point and 13 off Eaton's Neck where fish to 17 lbs. are being taken on trolled umbrellas. There are a few schoolie bass mixed in with these catches. More consistent bass fishing can be found at Marshal Field with fish ranging from schoolies to 8 lbs., taking umbrellas during the day and worms at night. Blackfish and flounder are being taken from the surf at

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East Bay Anglers of Merrick is running its annual Children's Flounder Derby on Saturday, October 29th, rain date Sunday, October 30th. All club members' children are invited to participate. For information, call Committee Chairman Dick Rubin at 516-868-8914.

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Hobart Beach off Sand City and off Makamah Beach. The blackfish are averaging 3 to 8 lbs.

Ronnie's Bait and Tackle reports good bluefishing on trolled umbrella rigs with black tubes off Lloyd's Point. The bluefish are in the 10 lb. class and some schoolie bass are mixed in. Blackfish averaging 3 to 4 lbs. and up to 7 are being taken at Morris Rock, Buoy 13 at Eaton's Neck and 11B on green crabs and fiddlers. Flounder averaging 3/4 lbs. are taking sandworms in Huntington Harbor, Lloyd Harbor and at the Crescent Club in the Bay.

The **Ever Ready** reports excellent flounder fishing Saturday and Sunday on worms and clam around the Huntington Harbor area. Some blacks were also taken on Saturday.

PORT WASHINGTON

Moreland's Bait and Tackle reports that flounder averaging ½ lb. are taking worms in the Bay. Bass ranging from schoolies up to 5 lbs. are being taken on worms from the Points from both surf and boat. The incoming tide in the morning seems to be the most productive. Blackfish up to 8 lbs. can be taken in the rocky areas on fiddlers, green crabs and worms.

BAYVILLE

Norm's Bait and Tackle reports good blackfishing at Morris Rock and Whitewood on green crabs. These fish are running from 4 to 6 lbs. Bass are being taken at Lloyd's Neck on red or black trolled umbrellas, up to 5 and 7 lbs. Flounder are doing well in Bayville Creek and at the Sewanaka Yacht Club. These fish are averaging 3/4 lbs. There is very little news on surf fishing because beaches where a lot of the action takes place are closed because of construction.

CITY ISLAND

John's Gun and Tackle reports blackfishing improving from Execution Light up the Sound on both sides on fiddlers and green crabs. Quite a few schoolie bass on umbrellas along New Rochelle or Hempstead Harbor along with blues. Flounder starting. Call John for the best spots.

Jack's Bait and Tackle reported blackfish still in shallow water with the biggest last week about 7 lbs. There's been some good flounder catches in the bays, especially off Orchard Beach. Fellows fishing off the float at Jack's Place caught a few lafayettes. Those customers out drifting worms came up with a few school bass to 6 lbs. Jack also mentioned a few nice catches of bluefish off Larchmont. One friend caught 17 bluefish drifting mackerel chunks. The fish weighed up to 14 lbs.

NEW ROCHELLE

Captain Pete Pearson said he has a leased boat and is now again out on the water. Pete expects delivery of his new boat sometime in March. We are looking forward to seeing one heck of a headboat. Peter reported his fares are taking a good number of blackfish but a lot of them are on the small side. There are some big fish taking the pools but you have to get your bait past the small ones. Last Saturday Pete saw some fish working off Lloyd's Neck so he might be taking a shot at these with diamond jigs. One of Pete's friends caught 21 bluefish from 12-18 lbs. off Eaton's Neck last week by fishing chunk bait on the bottom.

RYE

Capt. John's Boat Livery reported good blackfishing with many fish up to 8 lbs. Green crabs cut in half get the bigger fish, while fiddlers get the smaller ones. Plenty of small flounders are around. Lafayettes are still around but the numbers are decreasing rapidly. There were some school bass taken on the local reefs but no report of any big fish.

MAMARONECK

Mamaroneck Fishing Station reported some good flounder fishing last week. Fred reminds all readers now is the time with the best catches in close to shore. The best catch of last week was made by a man within sight of the dock.

GREENWICH

Capt. John Minniti of the **Delmar** reported very good blackfishing last week on the Conn. side of the Sound. The fishing is building to its fall peak which sould be along very shortly. On most trips, the pool winners are going 7 to 8 lbs.

Greenwich Sports Center reported some small flounder caught in the harbor were about the biggest news last week. With better weather hopefully we will see more fishermen on the water.

Sportsmen's Den reported flounder up to 1 lb. are out around Captains Island. Blackfish up to 10 lbs. were caught last week at the Sugar Boat. Reports of school bass taken off the Cows is welcome news.

GROTON CONN.

Captain Brad Glas of the **Hel-Cat** reported the bluefishing on the offshore grounds is still very, very good. All fares are getting the biggest kind of blues. Last Sunday it took 45 minutes to determine the pool winner. The contenders started at 18 lbs. 4 oz. and went up to a 20 lb. 4 oz. fish caught by Russ Gilbert from New Britain. This bluefish won the Hel-Cat Fish of the Week Award. Brad noted the smallest fish he saw thrown on the scales was 14½ lbs.

The largest bluefish weighed in during the fifth week of the Groton Town Derby in the pri private boat division was a 14 lb. 2 ouncer caught by Taft Khoury of Groton. It was caught on a plug out in the Race. In the charterboat division a 15 lb. 8 oz. bluefish was caught by Joe Zorechak on the Sea Weed II at Watch Hill. The top bass of the fifth week was a 46 lb. 8 oz. fish caught in the Race by Charlie Zander of Mystic.

HIGH TIDE TABLES

DAY	SANDY HOOK AM	SANDY HOOK PM	Breakwater Harbor AM	Breakwater Harbor PM	NEW YORK AM	NEW YORK PM	NEW LONDON AM	NEW LONDON PM	WILLETS POINT AM	WILLETS POINT PM	BRIDGE-PORT AM	BRIDGE-PORT PM	NEW-PORT AM	NEW-PORT PM	DATE
THUR	8:29	8:48	9:29	9:50	9:20	9:39	10:10	10:38	12:29	12:33	—	12:05	8:38	8:57	10/27
FRI	9:10	9:29	10:07	10:27	9:57	10:20	10:48	11:15	1:00	12:54	12:31	12:44	9:13	9:35	10/28
SAT	9:50	10:11	10:43	11:04	10:37	11:02	11:25	11:56	1:18	1:13	1:09	1:23	9:49	10:14	10/29
SUN	9:32	9:53	10:22	10:44	10:14	10:43	11:04	11:39	1:36	12:41	2:50	1:03	9:26	9:56	10/30
MON	10:14	10:36	11:02	11:26	10:53	11:30	11:46	—	1:08	1:19	1:32	1:45	10:03	10:37	10/31
TUE	10:59	11:28	11:45	—	11:35	—	12:29	12:32	1:47	2:01	2:17	2:31	10:44	11:25	11/1
WED	11:50	—	12:14	12:33	12:17	12:17	1:17	1:22	2:33	2:48	3:05	3:21	11:30	—	11/2
THUR	12:23	12:45	1:07	1:26	1:03	1:03	2:17	2:18	3:21	3:39	3:58	4:16	12:12	12:20	11/3

HOW TO USE TIDE TABLES

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that areas station above. Example: "Shinnecock Inlet.....—0 50" is listed under "On SANDY HOOK." —0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide, add 6 ½ hours to this figure.

STATEN ISLAND	+ 0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	—0 01
Red Bank, Navesink R.I.	+ 0 46
Long Branch	—0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	—0 18
Shark River Basin	+ 0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	—0 12
Seaside Park	—0 33
Mantoloking Bridge	+ 5 34
TOMS RIVER	+ 4 37
Waretown	+ 2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	—0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+ 2 33
Beach Haven	+ 1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	—0 01
Seven Islands	+ 0 12
Graveling Point	+ 1 05
Mullica River	+ 1 55
Grassy Bay	+ 1 06
ABSECON INLET	+ 0 14
Atlantic City Pier	—0 28
Gt. Egg Harbor Inlet	+ 0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+ 0 46
CORSON INLET	+ 0 09
TOWNESEND INLET	+ 0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+ 0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+ 0 45
Cape May Harbor	—0 02
Rehoboth Beach	—0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+ 0 14
SHINNECOCK INLET	—0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+ 1 25
East Quogue	+ 2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+ 1 16
Indian Reservation	+ 3 05
MORICHES INLET	—0 56
Smith's Point	+ 3 28
Harts Cove	+ 1 30
Potunck Point	+ 3 35
Mastic Beach	+ 3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	—0 38
Democrat Point	—0 38
Coast Guard Station	—0 19
Fire Island Light	+ 0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville	+ 3 39
Heckscher State Pk.	+ 3 20
Bay Shore	+ 2 23
Babylon	+ 2 12
Amityville	+ 2 21
JONES INLET	—0 19
Zachs Bay	+ 1 25
Seaford Harbor	+ 2 05
Freeport Creek	+ 0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	—0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+ 0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	—0 00
Beach Ch. Bridge	+ 0 38
JFK Airport	+ 0 26
Lloyd Point	+ 0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+ 0 06
Bayville Bridge	+ 0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+ 0 03
Northport Bay	+ 0 03
Norwalk Islands	+ 0 10
Smithtown Bay	—0 03
Cranes Neck Point	+ 0 05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+ 0 03
New Haven Harbor	+ 0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	—0 08
Herod Point	—0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+ 0 19
Horton Point	—0 20
Truman Beach	—0 42
Falkner Island	—0 13
Sachem Head	—0 10
Branford Harbor	—0 07
New Haven Harbor	—0 08
Milford Harbor	—0 07
Stratford	+ 0 27
Shelton	+ 1 36
Black Rock Harbor	—0 03
Saugatuck River	—0 01
South Norwalk	+ 0 10
Greens Ledge	—0 01
Stamford	+ 0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+ 0 06
Greenwich	+ 0 02
Orient Point	+ 0 27
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+ 0 12
Greenport	+ 1 04
Southold	+ 1 43
New Suffolk	+ 2 26
South Jamesport	+ 2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+ 2 33
Noyack Bay	+ 2 05
Sag Harbor	+ 0 59
Gardiners Bay	+ 0 21
Promised Land	—0 14
Montauk Inlet	—0 25
Montauk Point	—1 13
Niantic	+ 1 20
Stonington	—0 33
Noank, Mystic River	—0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove	—0 01
Norwich	+ 0 09
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook Jetty	+ 1 10
Lyme	+ 1 24
Essex	+ 1 38
East Haddam	+ 2 41
Higganum Creek	+ 2 54
Little Neck Bay	—0 10
Execution Light	—0 06
Manhasset Bay	—0 01
Hempstead Harbor	—0 11
City Island	—0 03
Rye Beach	—0 28
Port Chester	—0 09
Mamaroneck	—0 08
New Rochelle	—0 24
Davids Island	—0 02
CAPE MAY POINT	—0 10
Miami Beach	+ 1 17
East Point	+ 0 53
Egg Island Point	+ 0 33
Cape Henlopen	—0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+ 0 09
Mispillion River Ent.	+ 0 33
St. Jones River Ent.	+ 0 57
Jersey City	+ 0 07
Geo. Washington Br.	+ 0 46
Spuyten Duyvil	+ 0 58
Ossining	+ 1 53
Peekskill	+ 2 24
West Point	+ 3 16
Newburg	+ 3 42
Sakonnet	—0 10
Tiverton	+ 0 21
Beavertail Point	—0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Pt.	+ 0 10
Point Judith Harbor	—0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+ 0 05
Old Harbor	—0 14
Watch Hill Point	+ 0 44

11/2	6:34	4:53
11/7	6:40	4:47
11/12	6:46	4:42
11/17	6:52	4:38
11/22	6:58	4:34
11/27	7:04	4:31

NEW	1st Qtr	FULL	2nd Qtr
11/11	11/17	11/25	11/4

The schedule of solunar periods for the following week as printed below has been taken from the original Knight Solunar Tables. Plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during these times when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for an hour-and-a-half or two hours thereafter, and are in the bold type face. The minor periods are shorter in duration and lighter type.

	AM Minor	AM Major	PM Minor	PM Major
THURS.	5:05	11:45	5:30	—
FRI.	5:55	12:05	6:20	12:30
SAT.	6:40	12:55	7:10	1:25
SUN.	6:40	12:45	6:55	1:15
MON.	7:30	1:40	7:50	2:05
TUES.	8:20	2:30	8:40	2:55
WED.	9:10	3:20	9:30	3:45
THURS.	10:10	4:10	10:20	4:35

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